

# S' LASH ST. CLAIR

## s of Whipped Rebel Arm

### DRAGGED FROM AUTO, WHIPPED PAINTER SAYS

Lawrence Van Horn Tells  
Authorities of Man-  
handling Near  
Maynard

### ATTACKERS HOODED, TELLS AUTHORITIES

Lawrence Van Horn, 33, St. Clairsville painter, today reported to county authorities that he was stopped in his automobiles on the Maynard road, two miles west of St. Clairsville, last night at 2 o'clock by a band of hooded "Night Riders," dragged to a nearby school house and severely whipped before being released.

The victim appeared at the office of Justice of the Peace C. B. Brudfield today at noon and told him the story of the attack. He exhibited bruises and flesh wounds on the back to substantiate his statements that he had been beaten with whips. He said he believed he recognized one of his assailants and asked that a warrant be sworn out for his arrest, but was advised to make a further investigation into the affair before causing any arrests.

#### Version of Attack

According to Van Horn's version of the attack, he was riding in his machine with a friend and they were on their way to Maynard to get "a drink." He said the car was about half way to Maynard and traveling along at a moderate speed in the dark when he saw nine men, wearing black robes, step out into the road. He brought the machine to an abrupt halt and one of the hooded men approached and ordered him out of the car, he said.

Van Horn said the "Night Riders" did not molest his friend, but merely ordered him "to go on." He was forced to accompany his black-robed captors across a field and to a little school house, the location of which he was unable to determine in the darkness. The victim said he was taken inside the school house, thrown on the floor and subjected to a severe beating with fists and whips. His coat and shirt were torn off his back, he claims.

#### Second Attack

Last night's incident was followed by an attack upon Van Horn this morning at 10 o'clock in front of the post office at St. Clairsville. He was approached by a man, whose identity has not been learned, and the latter is reported to have made some accusation, which Van Horn resented. A fist fight developed and the principals were engaged in a hot hand-to-hand encounter when Marshal Don Hurdesty arrived on the scene and separated them.

Van Horn lives on Marietta st., St. Clairsville, and is a painter by occupation. He was married but his wife died several years ago. He is the father of one son.

44-114-1

301

SWILLE MAN

Retreat to Hills



6-11-4-1

The Department of Justice  
Washington.

D.C.

EW:hm

August 23, 1940

RECORDED

94-4-310215

Mr. Lloyd Paradise  
R. F. D. 2  
Lake Orion, Michigan

Dear Mr. Paradise:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 8, 1940.

It was indeed kind of you to bring this information to my attention, and your courtesy and interest in so doing are sincerely appreciated. Should you obtain any further information which you believe to be of interest to this Bureau, please feel free to communicate directly with Mr. J. S. Bugas, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice, 911 Federal Building, Detroit, Michigan.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc - Detroit  
(With copies of incoming)

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_





U.F.D.  
Lake Orion, Michigan  
August 12, 1940

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

My dear Mr. Hoover,

After reading your excellent articles in the Detroit Sunday News, "This Week Magazine," with much interest, and the President's message to the federal-state conference on law enforcement problems arising from the preparedness program, my mind reverted to some clippings.

I am enclosing these clippings; they propose to deal with anti fifth column activities in Oakland County and in Michigan, which seem to be headed by our Oakland County prosecutor, Charles Wilson, and our former governor, Wilbur Brucker.

This leadership seems rather strange to me as both these men are alleged to have had connections with the Black Legion. Also Irving Unger, an incorporator of the American Citizens League, is known to me as a Coughlin Catholic.

Wilson was elected to the prosecutor's office, it is alleged, by the underworld rate, of whom you speak in one of your articles, together with some unscrupulous business men. I was told by several Republicans that they were ashamed to have him on their ticket but would do nothing about it.

Before the investigation of the Black Legion began in Wayne County, Wilbur Brucker had been a speaker at a Black Legion meeting reported in the Detroit News. I recall having read the account of Brucker addressing such a meeting in Findlater Hall, Detroit. Being a Mason in principle and not just a member of some lodge, I was shocked at the use of that hall for such a meeting, because I had a lodge in Findlater Hall, which belonged to a Masonic lodge of the same; but I learned later that it had been taken over by some bank insurance company.

Brucker was also Michigan head of a group known as the Constitutional Protective League, discussed in a letter which I am enclosing.

In my opinion one of the biggest jobs for you will be to fume the odor from some of these patriotic groups.

With kind regards and best wishes, I am,

Yours for more democracy and less hypocrisy  
in our social and economic life.

Sincerely yours,

Lloyd Paradise

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. E. A. Tamm  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Glavin  
Mr. Ladd  
Mr. Nichols  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

ENCLOSURE

AUG 12 RECD  
625

44-4-3762-1  
RECORDED & INDEXED  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
AUG 27 1940  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED  
FIVE  
NICHOLS  
BOWEN

3 COPY 3  
THE DETROIT NEWS  
The Home Newspaper

Detroit, Michigan  
February 6, 1936

L. Paradise  
Dearborn, Michigan

Dear Sir:-

This league (~~Constitutional~~ Protective League) was incorporated in New York in 1934, ostensibly to defend the constitution of the U.S. and of the 48 states against "subversive influence", but actually according to its opponents, to fight the New Deal. In this state ex-Gov. Brucker has been a leader in it; one of its directors is Ernest ~~Rush~~ of Dearborn. There are a number of other associations of similar names, all fighting the present administration and its policies.

Very truly yours,

THE DETROIT NEWS  
Answers

92-10376-15

# Wilson Wars en Saboteurs

Refined News June 27

Says 1 Alien Groups Are  
Active in Oakland

FONTIAC, Mich., June 27.—Citizens of Oakland County were advised to be watchful of fifth column activities in a statement issued today by Prosecutor Charles L. Wilson, secretary of the new formed American Citizens Defense League which has statewide membership.

"It is the determination of the league," Wilson said, "that at every probable point where a saboteur may be at work, there is a responsible American citizen watching. This league is not formed for the purpose of witch-hunting or persecuting persons of foreign birth. It is intended as a guard against treachery.

"It is my hope the citizens of this community will volunteer their services. Here is an opportunity to serve at home against the element which undoubtedly contributed to the overthrow of nations abroad.

"Oakland County industries are vital to our armament program. There must be no hitch if we are thrown suddenly on a war footing. Already local officers and State police have discovered evidence of so-called fifth column activities. In Oakland County these undoubtedly would threaten production in our plants in the time of war.

"This office has before it reports that at least four pro-Nazi and Communistic organizations have headquarters in Oakland County. We know that subversive elements have been attempting to influence the attitude of citizens of this community. America can fight an enemy attacking from without. Watchful citizens at home can take care of those who would attack our vital industries from within."

# Hunt 5th Column, Oakland Is Urged

FONTIAC, June 27.—Calling on residents of Oakland County to aid in a hunt for Fifth Columnists in the municipality's vital industries, Prosecutor Charles L. Wilson, secretary of the recently formed American Citizens Defense League, declared Thursday that at least four Nazi and Communist groups had headquarters in the county.

"These persons will undoubtedly threaten production in our plants in time of war and disaffect our people when loyalty should overshadow all else," Wilson said.

Wilson said:

# 5th Column Foes Plan Corporation

1/15

LANSING, Mich., June 30.—(AP)—State Senator Joseph A. Baldwin, of Detroit, said today that he and other organizers of the American Citizens League would file articles of incorporation this week as a non-profit organization. Among the league's objectives is the unmasking of fifth column activities in the United States.

Following incorporation, Baldwin said, the league will name a board of trustees and then name county executive committees to act on membership applications. He said other incorporators were Irvine Duggan, Detroit; Prosecutor Charles L. Wilson, of Pontiac; Dr. Stewart McArthur, Mt. Pleasant, and Dr. F. H. Bradshaw, Lansing.

Baldwin, author of numerous bills designed to combat subversive activities, said one purpose of the league would be "to propose and support legislation designed to uncover and eliminate secret camps and military organizations of foreign allegiance."

The league, he said, will co-operate with all law enforcement agencies and all civic and fraternal organization Americanization committees.

You ask us to shed blood for our country; We proudly shall;

But why in Heaven 's name shall our enemies be permitted to  
desecrate poisonous propaganda in this country while we may  
have to sacrifice our lives, our jobs, our homes.

In the name of God and Humanity we ask you to crush this  
traitorous scum.... Now....

The following pro - nazi, pro - fascist, names and organiza-  
tions, and many others, are traitors to our country.

Nationalist Newsletter  
Charles Hudson.  
Gerald E. Winrod.  
William Dudley Pelley.  
Father Coughlin.  
Black Legion.  
Joseph M. Williams.

Col. Winfield Jones.  
Jacob Thielkelson  
Christian Front.  
Ku Klux Klan.  
Gen. George Massely.  
Toscin Publishers.  
George Christian.

etc. ... etc.

Enact Legislation making the Preaching  
of Racial Hatred A Federal Offence.

*A true citizen*  
*Harry Jones*

*reaction from  
the public  
and the press  
MAY 17 1942*

RECEIVED  
FEB 19 1942  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
*Paul*

July 1, 1947

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON  
MR. Tamm  
MR. Ladd

This morning Mr. Drew Pearson, Columnist, called to see me and left with me the attached photostatic copies of affidavits made by Virgil H. Effinger, Glenn E. Webb and Frank Barber concerning the initiation into the Black Legion of Congressman Robert F. Jones of Lima, Ohio, who has recently been nominated by the President for a position on the Federal Communications Commission.

Mr. Pearson stated that he thought that eventually there might be referred to the Department for investigation a matter of perjury in that Congressman Jones had testified under oath, concerning his nomination to the FCC, that he had never been a member of the Black Legion.

I think it might be well to transmit to the Attorney General at once copies of these affidavits, advising him that they have been left with the Bureau by Mr. Pearson.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

5 ENCL

Attachment (With Mr. Tolson's copy)

|                 |
|-----------------|
| SENT FROM D. O. |
| TIME 4:30       |
| DATE 7-1-47     |
| BY [Signature]  |

JEN:EH

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

58 JUL 18 1947

60 JUL 10 1947

State of Ohio,

Allegation

Allen County, ss.

That Herbert Effinger, being first duly sworn, says that he was personally present at a meeting of the Black Legion when Robert F. Jones, of Lima, Ohio, took the oath required to be taken by all applicants for membership in said organization.

Herbert H. Effinger

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence this 1st day of October, A.D., 1933.

Pauline M. Pool  
Notary Public, Allen County, Ohio

PAULINE M. POOL  
Notary Public, Allen County, Ohio  
My commission expires Nov. 1, 1935

COFY

AFFIDAVIT

State of Ohio

County of Allen, ss.

I, Glenn E. Webb, hereby being duly sworn, swear on oath that I initiated Robert F. Jones into the Black Legion on the Tapscott Farm, east of Lima, Ohio. Robert Jones kneeled before me where I could see him face to face - with a gun at his back, according to our ritual, as he accepted the oath of obligation. The ceremony took place around 1935.

(Signed) GLENN E. WEBB

Sworn to before me and in my presence this 28th day of June, 1947.

/s/ Leon N. Stone  
Notary Public for the  
State of Ohio

Copy of affidavit

I, Frank Barber, administered the preliminary obligation to Robert F. Jones prior to his joining the Patriotic Legion of America, commonly known as the Black Legion. I remember that the ceremony took place in the woods on Tapscott Farm about two miles from the city of Lima, Ohio. I believe it was the year 1934 as nearly as I can remember. I definitely remember it was before Robert Jones became county attorney because it was the Patriotic Legion of America which helped place him in that office.

June 30 (s) Frank Barber

Witnessed by Joseph B. Emmons  
and Jack Anderson

Notorized by Leon N. Stone

62-33673-16

ENCLOSURE

320



COPY

COPY

COPY

State of Ohio,  
Allen County, ss.      Affidavit

Virgil Herbert Effinger, being first duly sworn, says that he was personally present at a meeting of the Black Legion when Robert F. Jones, of Lima, Ohio, took the oath required to be taken by all applicants for membership in said organization.

(s) Virgil H. Effinger

Sworn to before me and signed in my presence this 1st day of October, A.D., 1938.

(s) Pauline M. Pool  
Notary Public, Allen County, Ohio

PAULINE M. POOL  
Notary Public, Allen County, Ohio  
My commission expires, Nov. 3, 1939

60-33643-20

321

Memorandum regarding Robert E. Jones and the Black Legion

Witness Frank Barber is Chief of Police in a small town outside Lima. *J. Barber Falls*

Witness Glenn E. Webb, something of a professional joiner, and who has belonged to various organizations in the past, is now prominent in the United Automobile Workers.

Witness Virgil H. Effinger, former head of the Black Legion, is now quite old. On Friday, June 27, he was questioned by the editor of the Lima News, who is very pro-Jones, as to whether Jones was ever a member of the Black Legion. Effinger replied in the negative. But on Saturday, June 28, Effinger was told that Drew Pearson had possession of an affidavit signed by him, that Jones was a member of the Black Legion. He was then asked whether he had ever signed such an affidavit. His reply, quoted by the Lima News was, "I don't know. I'm getting too old to remember those things now."

Effinger's affidavit is reported to have been signed in front of his attorney, Clarence Miller, who can doubtless testify to its veracity. Since the notary public, Pauline Pool, signed the affidavit in 1938, obviously she could not remember the hundreds of affidavits she has notarized. However, if a photostat of the original copy were shown her (original copy now on file with Senator White, chairman of the Interstate Commerce Committee), doubtless she will recognize her own signature.

62-33675-20

ENCLOSURE

It is alleged to have been used by the author and advocates of Unionism. It is reported to be currently owned by the colors, and shows the United States in possession of Canada, Iceland, Australia,

England controls all the Mediterranean ports.

Stalin controls a vast land Empire, going up through the Balkans, Poland, Finland, Esthonia, Roumania, Latvia and part of Germany.

We believe Germany is broken up in the map as we remember a description of it.

There is something about China in it but we can't remember it.

The "Invasion" money is reported to have Roosevelt's and Churchill's picture on it.

It is definitely known that the money was printed in Washington, D. C. and is stored there.

DEGualle has warned the French against this money, saying that it will "despoil" them of their possessions.

DeGaulle was scheduled to send 800 officers with American forces which invaded France. He sulked in his tent and finally consented to send 2. He stayed in Normandy long enough to have his picture taken as the "Savior" of France and then retired to let the English and Americans win his country back for him. Not before issuing a warning against accepting "invasion" money, however.

Two negroes and a Jew have bought Blossom Heath which is a famous gambling joint in St. Clair Shores, Michigan, a suburb of Detroit. This is a large place, many miles from where any negro lives and plunked right down in the middle of a nice settlement of white people. To get to it they have to pass thru the exclusive Grosse Pointe section. The city fathers are stalling on issuing a license and the attorneys for the negroes have threatened to mandamus them and force them to issue a bar and restaurant license. They will have to eventually issue same.

A group of negroes are reported to be negotiating to buy some boat club in Detroit or Grosse Pointe.

This situation has the makings of a race riot. For St. Claire Shores has a large number of members of the Ku Klux Klan and Black Legion living there. They are mostly employed at Hudson Motor and Packard factories which have long been known as strongholds of the Klan and Black Legion.



RGG:djw

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.

June 28, 1943

## MEMORANDUM FOR MR. LADD

re: PEARSON AND ALLEN BROADCAST  
7:00 P.M., June 27, 1943

Home front fighting is Japanese inspired by propaganda. Dies to allow negro leaders to air grievances. "Fighting on the home front:— Last week the United States of America, especially in Detroit, approached some of the internal strife which featured the great republic of France before she fell asunder. Now I can reveal that when Winston Churchill was in Washington, one problem which concerned him and President Roosevelt most was the manner in which Japan had gained favor with the Filipino people and with the Malays and the Siamese. Very cleverly the Japs have preached that this is a white man's war and that today the Japs are out to protect the colored races. This propaganda, President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill found, has made very serious headway. Then last week in Detroit a gang of hotbloods, inspired by the Black Legion and the Ku Klux Klan, did their country a great injustice and played into the hands of these Jap propagandists. When the wounded sat in crowded hospitals waiting for treatment, white and black-chatted and exchanged cigarettes together, showing that basically they had no bitterness but were stirred up by some un-American influence. Congressman Martin Dies, who comes from the South, informs me that he intends to give negro leaders a chance to tell their grievance to his committee and to ferret out whatever un-American influence it was that inspired these unpatriotic riots. . . . ."

There is no basis or substantiation from any source in regard to these allegations. The FBI is not conducting an investigation regarding this matter, but a memorandum has been submitted to the Attorney General submitting all the facts. However, it is believed that the War Department has placed credence in these reports and is taking Akane, also known as Major Takahashi, from internment to Detroit for questioning. This individual was placed in the penitentiary from 1939 to 1942 for illegal entry into the United States and on exit from incarceration was picked up by Bureau Agents and has been interned since.

Lewis to be indicted under new anti-strike legislation next October if strike occurs then. Pearson said, ". . . I can reveal that the Justice Department has been studying moves to indict Lewis. They found no legal means of doing so under existing law last week. Under the new anti-strike legislation, Lewis could be indicted and will be if there is another strike in October. . . ."

Franco, knowing that democracies are to win war, will restore the monarchy and hide behind regal robes. Pearson stated, "Desidero, Dictator Franco of Spain has decided to restore the monarchy in Spain for only one reason—he knows



317

JUL 16 1943

CC 287

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Piper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

that the democracies are going to win this war and that his 'pals', Hitler and Mussolini, are finished. The restoration of the monarchy will give Franco a chance to hide behind royal robes. The State Department career clique, as usual, is helping him."

Respectfully,

R. G. Glick

102

62-43899-1

RECORDED &amp; INDEXED

June 19, 1936.

Mr. A. H. Johnson,  
Caitus Regional Office #6,  
1015 Transportation Building,  
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir:

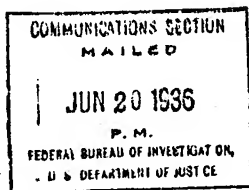
I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 6, 1936, furnishing information relative to the organization Caitus, of which you are a member of the advisory board.

For your information, the jurisdiction of this Bureau is restricted by legislative enactment to conducting investigations in matters relevant to the violation of specific Federal laws. The contents of your communication and the attached circular entitled "Caitus" have been carefully noted, but under the existing policies of this Bureau, I must advise you that I am unable to endorse or pass upon the legality or propriety of your organization.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

cc Detroit



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270 OCT 14 1964

62-43899-1

## CAITUS

REGIONAL OFFICE NO. 6

1015 TRANSPORTATION BLDG.

DETROIT, MICHIGAN

June 6th, 1936

POSTMASTER GENERAL  
Washington, D.C.

(Original)

Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D.C.

(Copy)

To Whom It May Concern:

Be it known that, prompted by the recent outbreaks of Black-Legionism in this territory, which is only a small part of the reactionist-nativist fanatic spirit and secret activity reported from every part of the United States; and fearing that our activity in this and adjoining territory; the activity of the CAITUS in a larger sense, will be met by the above secret organizations by denouncing us to the authorities; and in every other way tried to be arrested and stamped out; upon legal advice we are taking these steps to protect ourselves and our legally permissible enrollment of prospects for membership in the CAITUS, by submitting to the above named two governmental agencies, as follows:

1.- The above Regional Office No. 6 operates in Southeastern Michigan, northwestern Ohio and northeastern Indiana.

2.- Said operations in the said Region are in the hands of Ernest E. Zideck, until recently and for nine years employee of the General Motors; native Czech, German upbringing, naturalized at Fort Wayne, Indiana, in the year 1914 (viz: in February, 1914). Zideck has had engineering training in Germany; has had a thorough academic education; he is known in this country by his literary contributions to technical publications, Sheet Metal Worker of New York, American Artist of Chicago, and others. Also, under the name of Arnost E. Zidek his original Czech name, he wrote for years in Czech publication in this country. Also, in the years 1920-22 he was Instructor New York City with the Federal Board. He was instrumental in effecting the Slavic unity on the Pacific Coast alluded to in attached printed matter.

RECORDED &amp; INDEXED

3.- We are submitting PRINTED MATTER approved by us and used by the above Detroit Office. Said printed matter will be mailed it invites Postal inspection.

4.- The rules for solicitors of Enrollments in the CAITUS

COPIES DESTROYED  
270 OCT 14 1964

JUN 24 1936

TWO

1.

and the rule for a voluntary contribution by payment of one dollar, and in the printed instructions here attached. This might invite attention by the Dept. of Justice, Bureau of Investigation.

5.- Advertising in newspapers, mail to solicitors, agents, all is governed by the same printed instructions.

6.- Stipulated 10% of fees, collected from contributors to effect their organization into the C A I T U S , is being put in Trust by E.E. Zideck. Same applies or, will apply, to Offices established in Toledo , Flint and other places.

7.- E.E. Zideck is responsible to the authorities for his appointees, aids, agents and other such help engaging in the collection of fees for Enrollment in the C A I T U S . He is responsible, in his District embracing the above named territory, for the 10% of fees being deposited to the Credit of the Advisory Board of the CAITUS. He is responsible to the Advisory Board alone for strict accounting and results.

8.- By the use of Enrollment Cards in triplicate, as here submitted, the middle portion being received and kept by the Executive Secretary of the Board for execution of proper Membership Certificate; and by strict adherence to the rules as published in the Printed Matter; we believe that any false or fraudulent collections of fees under the name of C A I T U S as also mismanagement of the stipulated proceedings have been guarded against; and that there shall be no reason for interference by either the Postal Authorities or, the Department of Justice.

9.- There have been, and are, apprehensions as to what the Twenty Million Strong Alliance , composed largely of the Foreign-Born, might do once united and organized. Such apprehensions , if producing trouble, are wholly unfounded. The Alliance is for PROTECTION. Political, social, actual. But whoever believes that Jews and Catholics, Lordies and Latins and Slavics and the conglomeration of the other element might be united into a politically and economically divergent force from the established belief and order, he is a dreamer

10.- On the contrary, the Alliance will, by its very constitution support the established Order, and it is by means of Education through the uniform English language publications that the Alliance will be led on to more progressive, more liberal beliefs and tendencies. That, we hope, is much more preferable to the Twenty Million becoming a prey in the hands of the ultra radicalist tendency, of which there is evidence enough.



ADVISORY BOARD  
President Member:

62-4388-12



No.

# ENROLLMENT NOTICE

ORGANIZER: Fill out and forward with fee to the  
Regional Office.

Organizer's Number

Fee Collected \$

Forwarded \$

No. **1324**

## Request for Enrollment in the Caitus

Name

Address

Wife, Children

Address and Mail to:

1015 TRANSPORTATION BLDG DETROIT, MICH

No. **1324**

## CAITUS

### Enrollment Certificate

(Preliminary) Embracing the Undersigned

and

62-43899-1

# CAITUS CREDENTIALS

Issued to

177

Address

1140 Michigan Avenue

Detroit, Michigan

For CAITUS Organization Work  
in the Territory of

South East District

City of Detroit, Michigan.

Caitus Organization Department

Region No. 6

Signed:

MEMBER ADVISORY BOARD

Regional Office Stamp:



## TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Real Party forces are the only ones trying to arrest the progressive movement advocated by the consistent International, the Advanced Labor Movement, mostly by the Churches, and in part embodied in the New Deal. They are arousing, championing, and fanaticism to proceed in this country as the proponents of Reaction proceeded in Italy, Austria and Germany. They calculate that, in the so prevalent attacks, libel and disrespect, destroying mob rule, they will be able to convince the intimidated populace of the need of a Dictatorship in the United States.

In Germany, the attackable human material in this country would be the Jew, the Catholic, the advanced Labor Unionist, the honest Intellectual and, principally, the FOREIGN-BORN. It is to be expected that the Mob, once incited and let loose, would find it the least dangerous and the most profitable to loot the Jewish stores and concentrate on the destruction of the businesses, establishments and homes of the Germans, the Scandinavians, the Poles, the Latins and Greeks, the Slavics and the number of other nationalities and foreign language groups in our midst. Progressively, there would be other victims.

**ONLY A TWENTY MILLION STRONG ALLIANCE** of all the above attackable human material in the United States is able to hold back the reactionary forces from introducing here the Hitler tactics and in the ensuing riots and bloodshed and destruction fasten a fanatical-tyrannical rule over the American people. Only such a strong Alliance, equipped and prepared for whatever trouble, will warn the Mob to stay away. Only such an Alliance, its constituents aiding and protecting each other, its management in hands of wide-awake, fearless, quick acting men and women, will be fit to face whatever disturbances and mob psychology are developing in this country, and PREVENT here a repetition of what is happening in Europe; in

effect, prevent a Hitler here, which would result in the wholesale massacre, starvation and deprivation of the best people of the last vestige of the cultural and economic values for which their forefathers strove, suffered and died.

Such an Alliance is in formation now. Organized in all work throughout the country, in all Jews, Catholics, Teachers, Progressive Laborers, and the Foreign-born and their families for members of the Alliance. The organizing work is being conducted by an **ADVISORY BOARD** composed of a number of intellectuals, a number of the advanced leaders of the Foreign-born, a number of men and women, representative of the entire United States, of the Jew, the Catholic, the advanced Labor Unionist.

Facing obstacles put in the way by the reactionaries; especially so when these fanatics saw the Twenty Million strong foreign-language citizenry in this country being organized against their Hitlerite plans; the **ADVISORY BOARD** has instructed its members and delegates conducting the organizing work in different parts of the country to have this Document and Instructions printed for use by the organizers, their aids or agent.

### INSTRUCTIONS TO ORGANIZERS

1. The name of the Alliance is **CAITUS**, meaning: **Contrafascist Alliance in the United States**.
2. Persons engaged in the Enrollment of Members for the Alliance must carry and display a Card bearing this authorized version of **WHY AND WHAT FOR** we organize. Each person approached for enrollment must be apprised of these contents.
3. Organizers, their aids and agents are authorized to collect a fee from persons enrolled, One Dollar from individuals and, Two Dollars for the entire family, making the

62-43879-1

members of such family, wife and children, enrolled together with the father. One-half of the fee must be appraised that enrollment is a voluntary act and the payment of the fee a voluntary contribution towards carrying on the organizing work.

1. Each member is provided with Cards placed in two places, each such Card having 3 parts, each such part being numbered identically. After filling out all 3 parts as directed, and signed, the organizer retains one part and leaves two parts in the hands of the enrolled member. The organizer forwards his portion of the Enrollment Card, together with 40% of the fee collected, to the office by which employed (Regional Office). The enrolled member retains the portion of the Card marked "Enrollment Certificate" and forwards the other portion to the Regional Office. These directions must be strictly complied with to insure unobstructed organization work.

5. When a sufficient number of members in any one neighborhood or, of any one identical language is enrolled, the Regional Office proceeds to organize them into Neighborhood and Language Groups, each such Group sending two delegates to the Regional Unit, by which the Groups are governed thereafter. Each Regional Unit will send two delegates to the National Convention of the CAITUS, to be held in Chicago, in January, 1937.

CAITUS ADVISORY BOARD.



62-43877-1

# CAITUS

## A Short, Short Story

On the Pacific Coast were living, scattered here and there, small groups of Poles, Russians, Serbians, Bulgarians, Czechoslovaks, Ukrainians, Croatians and Slovenes. Separated one from the other, nourished on old-country hatreds, one of the other, these groups had little interest, and no voice, in the affairs of their community, State, or this, their adopted country. They were slighted, discriminated against, with **no protection from whatever source**. They, in their nationalistic and narrow minded isolation, were practically zero in citizenship, in social, cultural and other values of American life. They furnished, in that state of mind and social regard, a pliable human material into the hands of any demagogue who came along.

**That has been changed.** The seeming impossible has been accomplished. The Pole was made to forget his hating the Russian, the Croat the Serbian, this fellow the Bulgarian, etc., etc., and vice versa. Today these nationalities are all united, with a common English language newspaper, "The Slavic News", at Los Angeles, a common Auditorium nearby, a common human, civic and cultural bond making them **strong, respected and protected**.

Along the above lines, **CAITUS** is proceeding now to organize all the foreign-born and their families, citizens of the United States. The almost impossible is being done. Jews and Catholics, Germans and Poles, Scandinavians and Slavics, Latins, Greeks, all the other foreign-born or foreign language elements in our midst are being **enrolled for membership in the CAITUS, the twenty-million strong Alliance for Mutual Aid and Protection**, which shall, by means of a nation-wide, common newspaper, printed in English, and by other educational and informatory means, lead on its readers and members and make of them an integral part of American life, but also a part of that life that **will not, mutely and unprotected, submit to discrimination; to victimization, respectively in whatever reactionary or mob psychology disorders or upheavals are developing in this country.**

If someone donated **twenty million dollars** to be used in organizing the above elements along the lines outlined, the money would be squandered, its disbursers would become bosses, the **Alliance** if ever accomplished by that money being spent, would be subject to graft, money squabbles, dictatorial influence and **disunion** in the very start.

That is why **CAITUS** accepts no money from whatever source, but **lets each prospective member contribute voluntarily, One Dollar toward the organization work, enrollment of members primarily being done**. Strict accounting is essential. Sixty per cent of the dollar contributed goes to the organizing or enrolling force. Thirty per cent is allotted to Regional Offices employing organizers and facilitating their work. And only ten per cent of the dollar paid in is reserved for the CAITUS Treasury, by which shall be financed a National Convention of Delegates planned for January, 1937, and such other activities of the CAITUS as shall be determined by the said Convention.

Accordingly, each of the several Regional Offices of the Caitus, conducting Membership Enrollment Work, is responsible for ten per cent of all the fees so paid.

**The Advisory Board of the Caitus** is composed of individuals, men and women, scattered all over the country. A member of the Advisory Board inaugurates and supervises Regional Office activities. Regional Office Managers, when so appointed by the said Board Member, are put under Bond for the Ten per cent of Fees and for strict conduct of the Enrollment Work, as stipulated.

CAITUS Advisory Board



62-43809-1

7  
No answer  
OK

Washington - D.C.

RECORDED & INDEXED

62-2953-8

Dear Mr. Hoover

FEDERAL

INVESTIG

JUN 2 1936

MAY 29 1936

Write you a letter about what you to think about I am a Mr. Gault, by. I have live by experience in the world dipping from local jobs, it took a more look about eight years, in an experience I acquired at a town in Virginia, namely - Covington - which is situated along the line of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad - the main supporting feature of Covington is a huge pulp and paper mill - I have followed a line of work for years, which I would like to live where

and I used the cabin by permission  
of the owner, an empty apartment  
one Sunday morning as I sat  
at the fireplace, a knock came  
at the door, I arose and upon  
opening the door, beheld three  
young men, possibly twenty five  
years of age - I invited them in,  
and when they got to where  
the light from the fireplace the  
fireplace shown upon them -  
I noticed, that each had a black  
silly handle with a small dis-  
cuss - and wore a uniform  
of black, or dark green - they  
were high topped boots, all were  
uniformed alike, they at once  
started asking me questions -  
Two men were in uniform  
I was in Gorington on a

the very uniformed gentleman  
in uniform to whom they departed -  
the following day I requested  
my personal rights as far as  
the people whom I knew and  
called them to witness they could  
not distinguish me as when my  
grandfather was alive and they  
they were the uniform -  
but, nobody could distinguish  
me, I thought possibly it was  
a black man uniform, but  
learned that only one alive  
of stationer was living in the  
town, he joined a veteranist,  
I was never able to determine  
who my grandfather was, and  
what organization they represented,  
however, all still in ignorance  
of the matter just had they  
have been able to find out  
someone would have known



might say a number of things  
concerning against the house where  
I was located, thinking that  
as all boys I paid not  
attention to the matter, but as  
a punishment it continued I advised  
a party that I intended to appeal  
to the Sheriff for protection,  
and was told that among the  
political prisoners I would look  
for no relief from him, I at  
once appealed to the Governor  
Bogert, who was in my service  
and the reign of persecution  
stopped - I afterwards was told  
that a man, probably - had  
suggested that they were more  
my persecutors, why - I would  
could live with - possibly live

## WEATHER

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA—Fair tonight and Sunday with overcast near coast in morning, no change in temperature.

FROM NEWSBOYS THREE CENTS

# WIGHT

## 16 FANATICS HELD AFTER MAN SLAIN

Weird Moral Code Based  
On K.K.K. Exposed  
In Detroit

(Copyright, 1936, by United Press)

DETROIT, —(U.P.)— The black legion, 16 of whose members are threatened with murder charges from the death of a victim of a "night ride" has had scores of victims, police believed today. Preliminary investigation revealed an organization held together by weird oaths and terrorism and pledged to upholding a fanatical moral code and to enforcing a vindictive conception of "Americanism."

Authorities promised to file murder charges against 9 of the 16 today. They took part, police said, in the execution of Charles A. Poole, 32, a WPA worker who had been charged and convicted by the legion of beating his wife. He was stood up at the edge of a roadside ditch and shot by Danton Dean, 26, who confessed firing the shots, police said.

Police began an investigation of relatives and friends of the 16 men, believing they would not only find more members of the secret, night-riding society but victims of its moral crusade. Detectives believed almost all its past victims had been tied to trees in lonely woods and flogged.

Most of the victims, police believed, were charged with unfaithfulness to wives, of seducing girls and other moral lapses.

...the ... s ...  
...anti-commun ...  
...at it ha ...  
...against any ...  
...groups for his ...  
...beliefs.

#### Killed 44 Victims

The legion undoubtedly had many victims. Inspector Henry L. Navarre, commander of the police homicide bureau, said, "Just how many, we can't say at this time."

Navarre believed the victims of the legion had been taken largely from among relatives and acquaintances of its members. He and his investigators already had determined that Poole was innocent of the charge for which the legion tried and executed him. His wife, who gave birth to a son the day after he was slain, said he had never beaten her.

The 16 men held, ranging in age from 16 to 60, all factory workers, and all seemingly more proud than afraid, maintained a close-lipped silence. Navarre indicated that death was the legion's penalty for members who told its secrets, and that the men held were afraid of the vengeance of their brethren still at large. He believed that the legion had 60 members, and he ordered the arrest of the other 44.

Urban Lipps, 32, one of the men held, was the most communicative. He admitted having taken part in the execution of Poole, but said he had participated in no other "jobs." He had been a member for six months, he said, and he understood that the legion had "taken care" of a number of "rats."

#### Describes Ritual

Lipps described to police the ritual of initiation. After he had been accepted as worthy of membership (protestant and white), he was taken to a secret meeting place. The members of the legion surrounded him, dressed in flowing black robes, masked, the white stain of their skull and cross-bone insignia, on breast and cockaded hats, glittering in the poor light. At a command, he knelt. A legionnaire pressed a pistol against his heart and he was told to raise his right hand and take the oath.

Police were not immediately able to learn the exact wording of the oath, but Lipps said he swore to guard the secrets of the legion with his life, that he understood he would be killed if he betrayed it any way.

Lipps intimated, police said, that one of the requirements of membership in the black legion was membership in the Ku Klux Klan, which still survives, a weak shadow of its strength a decade ago. Lipps understood that the legion had chapters in all parts of the country and hundreds of members, but he knew no details of the national organization. The national commander, he said, had the title of major general but he did not know his name or his headquarters.

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES

Detroit, Michigan  
April 12 - 1944

ADVISED BY ROUTING

SLIP(S) OF *Detroit*  
DATE *3/17/44*

Director, FBI

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Re

~~CONFIDENTIAL NATIONAL  
DEFENSE INFORMANT~~

Dear Sir:

*X* [redacted] Port Huron, Michigan, was introduced to Special Agent Francis P. Parker, Resident Agent at Port Huron, by Captain DANIEL L. O'LEARY of the Port Huron Police Department.

*X* [redacted] is forty-four years of age, having been born [redacted] 1900, and is a life-long resident of Port Huron. He was formerly a member of the Black Legion in Port Huron and advised he joined this organization only because in the beginning he thought it was a Republican group. He attended three meetings, but during the course of those meetings he advised he met a great deal of the men and has furnished Agent Parker a list of those men which has been incorporated in the files of the Detroit Field Office. *X*

He advised he is willing to give information at any time whatsoever relative to the Black Legion and other subversive groups in and around Port Huron and he is being designated as a confidential national defense informant inasmuch as he has requested that under no circumstances should his name be made public.

He is [redacted] but is in Port Huron every week end. He does not desire reimbursement for information and advised he will give this information for the reason that he is a good citizen. His membership in the Black Legion was in 1936.

[redacted] will be referred to in the future as [redacted]

Very truly yours,

*R. P. Guerin*  
R. A. GUERIN, SAC

FPP/man

DECLASSIFIED BY 2909  
ON 2-7-78

*DPJ/bjw*



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PERSONAL  
AND  
~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: JOHN BANNERMAN, et al;  
ROY FITCOCK - VICTIM;  
KIDNAPING; MURDER ON  
THE HIGH SEAS.

APPROPRIATE AGENCIES  
AND FIELD OFFICES  
ADVISED BY ROUTING  
SLIP(S) OF *Deputy Director*  
DATE *9/17/37* *1937*

Dear Sir

During the interview with DAYTON DEAN regarding instant case, DEAN persisted in furnishing all information he could with reference to Black Legion activities along other lines, and in the course of the questioning advised that HEINERICH A. PICKERT, Commissioner of Police, Detroit, Michigan, was taken into the Black Legion and the oath administered to him by Colonel ROY HENNER.

DEAN stated that PICKERT was seen at meetings by him, and that after the various hearings in regard to prosecutions for murders committed by members of the Legion, several inspectors in the Detroit Police Department were raised to the position of Assistant Chief of Police, due to their knowledge of PICKERT's relationship with the Legion.

DEAN also advised that the following individuals were members of the Black Legion in this district, to his knowledge:

- I. EUGENE SHARP, Judge of Common Pleas Court, Detroit, Michigan
- RONALD S. LEONARD, Captain, Michigan State Police, Detroit, Michigan
- PHILIP BREITMYER, former candidate for Mayor in Detroit
- HARRY TOY, recent candidate for Governor in Michigan
- FRANK D. FITZGERALD, Governor-elect of Michigan

CLASSIFIED BY 2909  
2-7-78  
*DPH/hja*

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Personal and Confidential  
Letter to Director from  
SAC Detroit

October 12, 1938

45-46

JOHN GILLESPIE, well-known politician,  
Detroit, Michigan  
DUNCAN McCREA, Wayne County Prosecutor,  
Detroit, Michigan  
IRA ALBRECHT, politician, Detroit,  
Michigan

DAYTON DEAN stated that he was certain all of the above-named individuals were members of the Black Legion in 1936. He advised that he had seen DUNCAN McCREA at a Black Legion meeting which took place in a farmer's field one and one-half miles north of Oxford, Michigan; that McCREA took the oath of the Black Legion before IRA ALBRECHT; and that ALBRECHT was taken into the Legion at a meeting held in a field near John H and Eighteen or Nineteen Mile Road, at which meeting he (Dean) also was present.

During the questioning, DEAN appeared to have no ill feeling toward anyone except the members of the Legion who caused him to become a member and to get into his present predicament. He stated that he did not blame any of these men individually, but that he held his grievance particularly against BERT EFFINGER, who sent out the men to organize the Michigan District.

It will be noted from the report submitted in this case that EFFINGER resides at Lima, Ohio, and is reported to have been at the head of the Black Legion in the area covering the north-eastern part of the United States from Illinois to the Atlantic Ocean.

It is apparent from the investigation conducted to date by Special Agent H. A. Loughran of this office that, in all probability, the only persons who definitely know of the place where ROY FITZCOCK was murdered are the members of the party along at the time.

In accordance with Bureau letter dated August 12, 1938, the leads set forth in the report of Special Agent H. A. Loughran, dated December 6, 1936, at Detroit, Michigan, will be covered in the near future, unless otherwise advised by the Bureau.

Very truly yours

BAL:  
VK/wra

John C. Bugas  
Special Agent in Charge

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : The Director

DATE: June 30, 1941

FROM : D. L. Ladd

SUBJECT: JOSEPH B. EMMONS  
GLENN E. WEBB

|                |  |
|----------------|--|
| Mr. Tolson     |  |
| Mr. E. A. Tamm |  |
| Mr. Clegg      |  |
| Mr. Glavin     |  |
| Mr. Ladd       |  |
| Mr. Nichols    |  |
| Mr. Rosen      |  |
| Mr. Tracy      |  |
| Mr. Egan       |  |
| Mr. Gurnea     |  |
| Mr. Harbo      |  |
| Mr. Mohr       |  |
| Mr. Pennington |  |
| Mr. Quinn Tamm |  |
| Mr. Nease      |  |
| Miss Gandy     |  |

Pursuant to your telephonic instructions to Special Agent R. Lawrence last evening, there is attached a memorandum containing a summary of information concerning Joseph B. Emmons and Glenn E. Webb. This memorandum contains information in the Bureau files and that contained in the files of the Cleveland Field Division, as well as that furnished by the Resident Agent covering Lima, Ohio, based upon his personal knowledge of the situation in Lima.

In connection with your request for photostatic copies of previous correspondence between you and Congressman Robert Jones in 1937 concerning Virgil E. Effinger, allegedly head of the Black Legion in Lima, Ohio, these copies are being prepared and will be furnished to you under a separate memorandum.

ATTACHED.

Director's Notation.

Mr. Ladd's Tickler's  
Attachment

11 Copies furnished to Cong. Jones.

DATE: 3/1/52

16

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Handwritten signature and initials.

June 30, 1947

JOSEPH B. ~~EMMONS~~  
GLENN E. ~~WEBB~~

By teletype dated June 30, 1947, the Cleveland Field Division furnished the following information, part of which appeared in their files and part of which was furnished as personal knowledge of the Resident Agent covering Lima, Ohio:

Joseph B. Emmons presently resides at 789 Holly Street, Lima, Ohio. He was formerly married to Jean W. Emmons, but is presently divorced. He is a native of Lima and was previously employed by the Gro-Cord Rubber Company in Lima prior to becoming an organizer in the CIO labor field. He is presently Executive Secretary of the Lima Regional Industrial Council-CIO with headquarters at 112 East Elm Street. Emmons returned to Lima about 1944 after having served a considerable period of time in the United Rubber Workers of America-CIO in the Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and Akron, Ohio, areas.

Glenn E. Webb is a native of Lima and presently resides at 510 Jefferson Street, Lima. He was previously married to Ellen G. Webb and has at least two children as a result of this marriage. However, he was divorced during the past year and is presently married to Maxine Hempken, a girl some twenty years his junior. Webb was employed for a number of years as inspector in the Westinghouse Electrical Plant in Lima. He recently became a member of the Executive Board of Local 724, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America-CIO and has served as President of the Lima local.

The indices of the Cleveland Office failed to reflect any Communist activity on the part of either Emmons or Webb. However, sources of information available to the Cleveland Office advise that both Webb and Emmons have been termed by some Lima citizens as "fellow travelers" based on their stand on labor and racial matters.

The Cleveland Office further advised that according to recent newspaper articles, columnist Drew Pearson in testifying before the Senate Interstate Commerce Sub-Committee alleged that he had certain documents proving that Congressman Robert F. Jones, Ohio Republican Representative in Congress from the 14th Congressional District, Lima, Ohio, was a member of the Black Legion, which was a "disgruntled branch of the KKK" and operated in Ohio in 1935. The Black Legion allegedly was organized and administered by Virgil H. "Bert" Effinger.

Effinger, an electrical contractor, presently resides at 1114 Harrison Avenue, Lima. In the middle 30's he was arrested in Lima and extradited to

COPIES DESTROYED  
SEP 10 1964

ENCLOSURE



Detroit, Michigan, to stand trial on charges of murder allegedly committed along with other acts of violence by the Black Legion. Numerous influential citizens and public officials including the present Mayor, Chief of Police and Sheriff of Allen County, all from Lima, and others in the surrounding territory are alleged to have been members of the organization. Congressman Jones, who was Prosecuting Attorney for Allen County at that time, was allegedly vigorous in his activity in making Effinger available for extradition.

Drew Pearson allegedly has an affidavit from Effinger alleging that Jones was inducted into and took the oath in the Black Legion under his, Effinger's, direction. Effinger, according to a recent article in the "Lima News", a local newspaper, refuted Pearson's claim.

Pearson also allegedly has an affidavit of Glenn E. Webb which he obtained through the efforts of Joseph B. Emmons which alleges that Webb made Jones a member of the Black Legion at a different meeting, time and place than that alleged in Effinger's affidavit.

Emmons and Webb are regarded in Lima as being antagonistic toward Jones possibly as a result of Jones' reported anti-labor record in Congress. Both individuals have actively denounced Jones through local press and radio releases. According to Lima press information, there is possible doubt as to the validity of Webb's affidavit inasmuch as no previous indication of Webb's affiliation with the Black Legion has been reported. Another press informant of the Cleveland Office has stated that he expects to be able to advise that office soon if Webb was known by Effinger as a member of the Black Legion and whether Webb could have been in a position to induct Congressman Jones into the secret organization as alleged in the affidavit.

Sources available to the Cleveland Office advise that the present charges against Jones by the above-mentioned labor leaders have not heretofore been brought against him during Jones' political career. In Lima certain locals of the Food, Tobacco and Agricultural-CIO have withdrawn from the national organization, alleging Communist domination. Emmons in his capacity as Executive Secretary of the Lima Regional Industrial Council, in order to combat these dissident elements, has obtained the legal services of a Lima attorney, one Elmer McClain, known to the Cleveland Office as Executive Secretary, Agricultural Committee, National Council of American-Soviet Friendship, Lima, Ohio.

On April 3, 1944, Jacob Kroll, Director, National Political Action Committee, 248 Railway Clerks Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, addressed a letter to Emmons in which he pointed out that the committees should call on their Congressmen and Senators urging them to extend the OPA without bans on subsidies, freezing wages or crippling amendments of any kind, as reflected by a review of the Bureau files.

The files further reflect that on May 12, 1944, Emmons addressed a letter to Kroll in which he discussed the nominations in local politics and discussed purely union activities.

On June 2 and June 13, 1944, letters were written by Joe Emmons as Field Representative, CIO Political Action Committee, Region V, United Rubber Workers of America-CIO, Akron, Ohio, to all rubber locals in Region V, exhorting the members of those locals to work toward the reelection of the late President Franklin Delano Roosevelt.

On June 29, 1944, Joseph Emmons as Field Representative of the Political Action Committee addressed a letter to S. H. Dalrymple, General President, United Rubber Workers of America, 503 United Building, Akron, Ohio, concerning the political action of Local 85, URWA, at Lima, Ohio, and pointing out that the full and active participation of that local in political action was needed as "this city is within the 4th Congressional District—one of the most reactionary in the State."

On July 5, 1944, Emmons wrote a letter as Field Representative of the CIO Political Action Committee to Jack Kroll, concerning the delinquencies of some of the local organizations and his actions to overcome these delinquencies.

The Bureau files further reflect that Joe Emmons, 789 Holly Street, Lima, Ohio-URWA was listed in July, 1944, as union representative working in Region V on political action work.

The Bureau files also reflect that Joseph B. Emmons was employed as an organizer by Local 22, United Tobacco Workers Union-CIO, Winston Salem, North Carolina, during September, 1944. This union was active in the Reynolds Tobacco Company in Winston Salem.

The files further reflect that at Lima, Ohio, the Official Annual Labor Directory-CIO disclosed Joseph B. Emmons, 789 Holly Street, Lima, Ohio, Local 85, URWA, was Executive Secretary of the Lima Regional Industrial Union Council in March, 1946.

The only references in Bureau files concerning Glenn E. Webb indicate that the "UE News" of May 5, 1945, listed Glen E. Webb as President of Local 724 and "UE News" of May 9, 1946, listed the same information. A notation was made, however, that no Communist infiltration within this local has been reported. One "Glen Webb, Lima, Ohio, present FERA" (Federal Emergency Relief Association) "paymaster" is named in a list of officers and members of the Black Legion which was furnished by Messrs. Carter, Pratt, Urfer and Scheid. These individuals were allegedly former members of the Black Legion and were interviewed by Bureau Agents in connection with the investigation of the Black Legion in 1935.

RGH:BO

June 4, 1936.

62-29893-1X

RECORDED

Mr. J. W. Hamilton,  
815 Fuller Avenue,  
St. Paul, Minnesota.

Dear Mr. Hamilton:

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter, dated May 30, 1936, inclosing copies of the editorials entitled "Paroles and Gangsters" and "The Black Legion," which appeared in recent issues of the St. Paul Pioneer Press. I read these editorials with a great deal of interest and want to sincerely thank you for your thoughtfulness in calling them to my attention.

I also want to thank you for your interest in suggesting that cartoons be widely exhibited visualizing the phrase, "Yellow Rats," as pertaining to criminals, as a step in crime prevention. I am indeed interested in this suggestion and shall give it consideration.

With best wishes and kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

- Mr. Nathan .....
- Mr. Tolson .....
- Mr. Baughman .....
- Chief Clerk .....
- Mr. Clegg .....
- Mr. Coffey .....
- Mr. Edwards .....
- Mr. Egan .....
- Mr. Foxworth .....
- Mr. Harbo .....
- Mr. Joseph .....
- Mr. Keith .....
- Mr. Lester .....
- Mr. Quinn .....
- Mr. Schilder .....
- Mr. Tamm .....
- Mr. Tracy .....
- Miss Gandy .....

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MAILED  
JUN - 5 1936  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U S DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

WOLSON

St. Paul  
Pioneer Press  
approx 5/29

## PAROLES AND GANGSTERS

Between J. Edgar Hoover's criticism of parole systems and the National Probation Association's defense of them there is no real conflict. Both are correct.

A large number of the criminals with whom the G-men deal have at one time or another been released from prison on parole. Mr. Hoover has given dramatic point to this fact by showing that every one of his men who has been killed on duty was shot by a paroled convict. In short, the gangster or professional criminal is almost without exception a public enemy who is and can be of no use to society, who never should be released, and who gets his parole either through corruption of officials, politics or just plain stupidity. Mr. Hoover is absolutely correct in his belief that parole and the professional criminal cannot be made to mix without evil results.

Where the parole system fails it is usually for good reason. In the first place, it is frequently regarded as a form of clemency, whereas it is really a method of prolonging social control over the majority of offenders who are redeemable and potentially good citizens. Secondly, adequate parole personnel and machinery are often lacking.

Only fourteen states have created agencies to deal specifically with parole—many states delegate parole to the governor or board of pardons. Only five states and the Federal government have full-time salaried parole boards. Only eight states, including Minnesota, have substantial numbers of field agents working under central supervision; a majority of the states have fewer than a dozen agents or none at all.

Under such circumstances the administration of parole in many states becomes a haphazard affair. Such misconceptions of parole as a form of clemency that the G-men speak of are the only sensible prison policy is to put them under lock and key and keep them there.

But where parole is intelligently organized and administered, the mistakes are few and those that occur are offset by far by the social benefits of its wise use for the large majority of prisoners. A prisoner is selected for parole not to diminish his sentence but because he is judged fit for a better form of custody. Instead of being held within a prison, he is held under control and supervision as a returned member to society. It is a continuation of the ultimate purpose behind prison policy, the reconstruction of a human being, and under circumstances which contribute most surely for the success of the policy.

But an inadequate parole system is worse than none at all, and amounts to a breakdown in social defense against crime. Selection must be wise and supervision thorough. When parole selects habitual criminals, or when it allows paroled prisoners to go free, it becomes a menace. For the class of criminals of whom Mr. Hoover speaks the only sensible prison policy is to put them under lock and key and keep them there.

The Probation Association is talking about successful parole systems and Mr. Hoover about the unsuccessful ones. For each there is a reason.

# St. Paul Pioneer Press

An Independent Newspaper

LEO E. OWENS, President and Publisher.

WILLIAM F. JOHNS, General Manager.  
ROY J. DUNLAP, Managing Editor.  
HERBERT LEFKOVITZ, Editorial Director.

## PRINCIPAL NEWS BUREAUS

and Branch Offices  
WASHINGTON—425 Albee Building.  
ST. LOUIS—1924 General Motors Building.  
NEW YORK—270 Madison Ave. and 63 Park Row.  
CHICAGO—188 Peoples Gas Building.  
LOS ANGELES—Gardner Building, 403 W. 8th St.  
SAN FRANCISCO—521 Russ Building.  
BOSTON—Transamerica Building.

Current files of the Pioneer Press and Dispatch are maintained at these offices.

### Member of the Associated Press (AP)

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### ST. PAUL PIONEER PRESS

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Sundays \$2.70  
To all points in the U. S. \$8.00 \$2.00 \$1.00 \$1.00

## The Black Legion.

The fantastic secret society called the Black Legion whose existence has been brought to light by the Poole murder is evidently a revival in new form of the Ku Klux Klan of ten years ago. That earlier organization went aground on the rocks of common sense, public ridicule of its love for mystery and silly trappings, and the racketeering proclivities of its leaders. In the abracadabra of infantile ritual and its creed of prejudice and violence, the Black Legion is quite similar to the Klan, and it does not strain credulity too much to believe, as its now exposed leaders say, that a sufficient number of deluded people have been found, the Kluxers of the past and others, to build up an organization of some extent.

But their claim of a membership of six million is so extravagant as to defy all belief. There never was and never will be a secret society of six million members. The two are a contradiction in terms. Were there such an organization, it would have been heard from long before this. At the height of its post-war revival the Klan had 2,000 organizations and only a fraction of its members claimed out of a clear sky.

More mysterious than the Black Legion is any number of persons who can be persuaded that underhanded violence and prejudice can be inspired by a sincere Americanism, of which they are the negation. Honest men cannot know what they are doing when they lend themselves to purposes which do not dare the light of day.

## Double Week End Traffic.

With Memorial Day falling on Saturday, there will be a doubled holiday at the end of this week. The prospect is that the exodus from the city will be more than doubled by the opportunity for a trip instead of just a Sunday afternoon pleasure ride. In consequence, traffic on highways radiating from St. Paul will be tremendously increased and the hazard for both motorists and pedestrians will reach maximum on Sunday afternoon when the departures of the two days will be united in one great traffic stream hurrying back to the city.

In view of this condition, Superintendent Wettergren of the Traffic Squad sensibly suggests that motorists wishing to avoid the dangers due to congested highways start their return trips earlier than usual. This will tend to reduce the jam that steadily increases in density after mid-afternoon and becomes especially hazardous at nightfall. An ordinary week end averages twice as

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Mr. Nathan   | ..... |
| Mr. Tolson   | ..... |
| Mr. Baughman | ..... |
| Chief Clerk  | ..... |
| Mr. Clegg    | ..... |
| Mr. Coffey   | ..... |
| Mr. Edwards  | ..... |
| Mr. Egan     | ..... |
| Mr. Foxworth | ..... |
| Mr. Harbo    | ..... |
| Mr. Joseph   | ..... |
| Mr. Esh      | ..... |
| Mr. Lester   | ..... |
| Mr. Quinn    | ..... |
| Mr. Schilder | ..... |
| Mr. Tamm     | ..... |
| Mr. Tracy    | ..... |
| Miss Gandy   | ..... |

67-29898-1X

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, San Francisco, California  
 SUBJECT: JUVENILE DELINQUENCY MATTERS - RESEARCH

DATE: 6-23-44

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated March 10, 1944 making reference to an item appearing in the "Redwood Journal" of February 14, 1944 captioned "Juveniles in Outbreaks of Major Proportions; Damage Considerable." The article indicates that a tide of juvenile vandalism had the police department about submerged during the past week with the result that half a dozen youngsters were called in by Chief LAMPFORT for questioning.

On June 14, 1944 Special Agent [redacted] of this office contacted Chief of Police LAMPFORT at Ukiah, California, and ascertained the following information regarding the above-referred-to item:

On February 10, 1944 the Ukiah Police Department received a telephone call from a member of the Ukiah High School faculty to the effect that two youths had broken several windows in the Ukiah Grammar School and had soaped many of the windows at the school, having then gone to the home of the faculty member and maliciously damaged the hedges in front of his home and destroyed several expensive flower-pots which had been placed on the front porch. After this faculty member had called the first time, he again called the police department and informed them that he had received a telephone call from an individual, apparently a youth, who called him several vile names and then hung up.

The following evening this faculty member received a note, partly in writing and partly hand-printed, which was delivered under the front door of his home, in which he was again called vile names and threatened. This note was signed "The Black Legion." It was not available for examination, it having been destroyed, according to Chief LAMPFORT.

In addition to the above episode, Chief LAMPFORT advised that several windows in private homes had been broken by these boys, as well as the windows of many cars parked on the streets of Ukiah, California, having been soaped.

After conducting a preliminary investigation, Chief LAMPFORT brought in for questioning [redacted] age 15, and [redacted] age 15, both students at the Ukiah High School, who admitted these offenses. When questioned by Chief LAMPFORT, they could not give any reason for their activity, and when brought before the Juvenile Court, they were placed on probation for an indefinite period of time and ordered to pay for all damages they caused.

According to the Chief, both these boys come from good homes and have never been involved in any trouble before.

COPIES DESTROYED

40

JUN 30 1964

RECORDED & INDEXED

EX-11

JUN 2

54-111

Director, FBI, from SAC, San Francisco, California

6-23-44

Re: JUVENILE DELINQUENCY MATTERS - RESEARCH

[redacted] resides with his mother and his stepfather, his own father being dead, and the family maintains a good reputation in the community.

[redacted] also comes from a good home and resides with his parents; however, LAMPORT advised that at one time the father drank heavily, although in the past few years he has improved in this connection to a great extent.

Because of the fact that Chief LAMPORT considers the activities of these boys to be juvenile "larks," no further effort was made to obtain more information concerning the family background.

Relative to the same item in the "Redwood Journal," Chief LAMPORT advised that on February 12, 1944 his office arrested [redacted] age 9; [redacted] age 9; and [redacted] age 10, for malicious mischief. At 6:15 pm on February 12, 1944 the above-named youths, all residents of Ukiah, California, broke ten large windows and all show cases and electrical fixtures in a gasoline station on the outskirts of Ukiah which had been closed for the duration. The damage caused by the boys was estimated at \$165 by authorities.

When questioned, the boys were unable to give any reason for their actions and were not taken before the juvenile authorities, because of the fact that their parents agreed to pay the owner of the gasoline station which was damaged \$165.

According to Chief LAMPORT [redacted] lives with his family at Ukiah, California, and has never been in trouble before. His family reportedly has a good reputation in the town.

[redacted] likewise comes from a good family, but [redacted] who resides with his mother, has been in trouble on prior occasions for malicious acts, and his mother possesses a poor reputation and drinks very heavily. She is employed in a restaurant and bar in Ukiah that caters to a low-grade trade and is on the streets late at night, so that the boy does not receive the proper home life.

Chief LAMPORT informed that he had just received notification from the United States Army that [redacted] brother [redacted] is a "straggler," being AWOL, and that the Army requested the Police Department to apprehend him should he appear in the vicinity of Ukiah, California.

JJB:emb



JOHN EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation

U. S. Department of Justice

Washington, D. C.

October 7, 1936

61-7560  
KRM:TD

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: William Dudley Pelley  
and the Silver Shirts.

Mr. Nathan .....  
Mr. Tolson .....  
Mr. Baughman .....  
Mr. Clegg .....  
Mr. Coffey .....  
Mr. Egan .....  
Mr. Foxworth .....  
Mr. Glavin .....  
Mr. Harbo .....  
Mr. Joseph .....  
Mr. Lester .....  
Mr. Nichols .....  
Mr. Quinn .....  
Mr. Schilder .....  
Mr. Tamm .....  
Mr. Tracy .....  
Miss Gandy .....

Reference is made to the memorandum for the Director in the above entitled matter dated September 25, 1936, in which it is shown that Roy Zachary not long ago approached one William Lohrer, of Seattle, Washington, with the intention of purchasing certain arms and ammunition for the Silver Shirts and the Silver Legion. The Daily Worker for September 24, 1936, carries a news item under Seattle, Washington date line for September 24th, alleging that the Fascists are arming for a pogrom on the Jews in this city. The item goes on to state that it has been revealed attempts have been made to purchase one hundred rifles, three hundred pistols and several thousand rounds of ammunition by a representative of William Dudley Pelley's Silver Shirts. The item states that Roy Zachary, Christian Party State Organizer, tried to purchase arms from William Lohrer's Sport Shop, 4316 University Way. It is also alleged that Zachary had a permit with the signature of Chief of Police William H. Sears and admitted that the guns were to be used by Pelley's private Fascist army in an immense pogrom being planned by the combined forces of the Black Legion, the James True Associates and the Silver Shirts.

The item states that Chief of Police Sears denied he had issued a permit and branded it a forgery. Sears stated "If Zachary has a permit bearing my name, it's a forgery. I have issued no pistol permit since I've been in office. I intend to investigate this affair thoroughly, and if he has a permit, I will prosecute him to the full extent of the law."

Respectfully,

RECORDED E. A. Tamm

INDEXED

OCT 15 P.M.

RECORDED COPY FILED IN

61-7560-13

62-28600-65

RE-INDEXED  
DATE: 1-23-57  
13

V 30, 1936

# Klan Joins War On Black Legion



LANTA, MAY 29—Hiram W. Evans, Imperial Wizard of the Ku Klux Klan, declaring that his organization is "opposed to terrorism," today urged the Federal Government through the use of G-men, to stamp out the Black Legion, terroristic activities under investigation in Michigan.

Thro the  
no. This  
Mr. J. W. Evans had  
made his brags that  
the Klan always  
escaped punishment.  
Because - the Klan  
Officers, came to  
help enforce the  
Law, all this is  
in their secret papers  
the good? Mr. would  
proceed to put the  
men into the

RECORDED

INDEXED

62-23272-72

JUN 9 1936

JUN 5 1936

Thro-misleading information  
The Klan, still, Bradley-Kans  
and there is a "United Brotherhood"  
church 3 1/2 miles west of Gridley - also  
one 4 1/2 miles east & south of Gridley.  
Detroit has nothing over Gridley

M. C. K.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

L-40

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: *Night Riders*  
*Security Matters*

File # *100-360306-1*  
Lab. # *D 16114*

Examination requested by: *Philadelphia (100-0)*

Date of reference communication: *Let 4-22-44*

Date received: *5-5-44*

Examination requested: *Doc. Fgpt.*

Result of Examination:

Examination by: *E. Jones*

*Q2 searched NSF Lettering sets and A.L.F. Rubber Stamps & Toy Typewriters. No ident. Searched Rubber Stamp File. Typ. approx. 12 letters to inch. Capital letters "high". Small letters approx. 3/4" high.*

Specimens submitted for examination.

*Typ. not suff. comparable for identification.*

*Typ. found to be similar to type of rubber stamp sets mfg. by the following companies:*

- 1. Louis Melind Co., San Fran. & Chicago. Catalogue of Working Rubber Stamp # 2022 (News Gothic)*
- 2. Orwin-Hodson Co., <sup>N.W. 15th to 16th Ave. at Kilian</sup> Portland, Ore. Supplement T-83 #5148 Rubber Stamp.*
- 3. Superior Type Co., Chicago, <sup>(Grand Washburne)</sup> San Francisco - Wholesale Catalogue and Price Bulletin. Chicago Office: - 3940 Ravenswood Ave. "Vari-line Type" #8512 (5510 upper case also)*
- 4. Eagle Stamp Works, Chicago, 162 North Franklin St. St. Catalogue for Oct., 1936. #6109 Rubber Stamp*

*100-300300-2*

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

L-40

Laboratory Work Sheet

Re: *Night Riders*  
*Security Matter*

File # *100-300300-1*  
Lab. # *D-16114*

Examination requested by: *Philadelphia (100-0)*

Date of reference communication: *4-22-44*

Date received: *5-5-44*

Examination requested:

Result of Examination: *no latents*

Examination by: *Haynes*

*Searched Q2 of 100-300300-1 in Rubber Stamps*  
*and Lettering sets of ALF and National Security File*  
*W. H. T. ... Searched in the handwriting of ALF*  
*no result.*

Specimens submitted for examination

*Q2 - no watermarks*

*length 7.5*

*width 5.47-5.48*

*Opacity 0.96-0.9*

*Thickness 0.0035*

*Q5 - white card*

*length 6.50-6.52*

*width 3.65-3.66*

*Weight 3.3446 gr*

*Opacity 0.97-0.98*

*Thickness 0.0046-0.00*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Laboratory Work Sheet

RECORDED:

5-6-44 9:30 AM

Re: NIGHT RIDERS  
Security Matters

File # 100-300300-1  
Lab. # D-16114 ED

Examination requested by: Philadelphia (100-0)

Date of reference communication: 4-22-44 Let

Date received: 5-5-44 vlr

Examination requested: Document - fingerprint

Result of Examination: *no latent*

Examination by: Rollins  
LATEX

*no ident M.S.F. or G.F.F.*

*"Night Riders" checked in Bureau index - used in anon.  
communications and spec. in connection to an  
organization of some type.*

Specimens submitted for examination

- Q1 One window envelope, brg no postmark or return address.  
Q2 One piece of white paper brg printing bgn "The Night Riders Ride Again!f...."

5/8/44

207

98-4114 use of "Night Riders" in an anon. postal  
card postmarked Lowell, Mass. 5:30 P.M. June 4, 1941.

44-173 - refers to a band of night riding floggers -

operating in and around Brunswick, N.C.

9-15481 anon letter recd. by J. I. Loeffels Victim  
signed "Night Riders. (Greer, S. Carolina)

9-2242 - use of word "Night Riders"

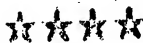
62-18103 - "Night Rider" matter, Western District of  
Kentucky.

44-114 "Night Riders" organization west Virginia.

44-166 N.C. night Riders organization flogging victims  
chief appointed vigilantes

61-7398

The Night Riders Ride Again!



A few years ago, Bristol was hearing  
about A certain band called the-

NIGHT RIDERS!

So Beware! for they ride again!



100-300300-2

REPORT  
of the

LABORATORY

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
WASHINGTON D. C.

ELR:JC

May 28, 1944

To: SAC, Philadelphia

There follows the report of the FBI Laboratory on the examination of evidence received from your office on May 5, 1944.

*J. Edgar Hoover*  
John Edgar Hoover, Director

Re: Night Riders  
Security Matter

FBI FILE NO. 100-300300-1  
LAB. FILE NO. D-16114 ED  
YOUR FILE NO. 100-0

Examination requested by:

Philadelphia

Rollins

Reference:

Letter 4-22-44

Examination requested:

Document - fingerprint

Specimens:

- Q1 One window envelope bearing no postmark or return address.  
Q2 One piece of white paper bearing printing beginning "The Night Riders Ride Again!..."

Result of Examination:

The printed material on Q2 was searched against material of a similar nature in the File of Writings pertaining to National Security and the Anonymous Letter File, but nothing of significance was noted. An appropriate copy of Q2 will be added to these files for future reference.

It is not possible to reach a definite conclusion as to the method or material used in the printing of the printed text on Q-2. However, a search in the laboratory's rubber stamp files has failed to reveal any such stamp.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
Philadelphia (Enclosures)  
Laboratory  
★ MAY 23 1944 P.M.  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

(continued next page)



reference file reflects that the style and design of the letters on Q2 are similar in style and design to comparable letters listed in rubber stamp catalogues of the following companies.

| <u>STYLE NUMBER</u>                      | <u>COMPANY</u>   |
|--|--|
| 2023 (News Gothic type)                  | Louis Melind Company with offices located at San Francisco and Chicago.    |
| 5148                                     | Irwin Hodson Company N.W. 15th to 16th Avenue at Clisan, Portland, Oregon. |
| 8510 Upper Case Letters (Vari-line type) | Superior Type Company with offices   |
| 8512 Lower Case Letters (Vari-line type) | located at Chicago and San Francisco.                                      |
| 6107                                     | Eagle Stamp Works, 162 North Franklin Street, Chicago, Illinois.           |

Inasmuch as the catalogues available of the companies listed above show only a limited number of the letters of the alphabet, it is not possible to state that all of the letters on Q2 conform in style and design to any of the above listed styles.

It is further pointed out that the letters on Q2 are also limited.

Q1 and Q2 were chemically treated for the development of latent fingerprints, but none of value was developed.

Q1 is a plain white bond window envelope 6.50 inches in length and 3.63 inches in width.

Q2 is a plain sheet of white paper 7.50 inches in length and 5.47 inches in width. Specimens Q1 and Q2 bear no watermark.

The physical measurements of Q1 and Q2 have been taken and recorded in the Laboratory.

A check was made in the Bureau indices on the term "Night Riders" and it was reflected that several anonymous letters have come to the attention of the Bureau which have used this term. It is further noted that the term "Night Riders" has been given to certain organizations which have operated in such states as South Carolina, West Virginia, Kentucky and North Carolina. These organizations appear to have been

self-appointed vigilante committees which have indulged in some instances in the beating of their victims.

This information is set forth in accordance with your request and is not intended in any way to indicate that a similar organization is responsible for the preparation of the printed text on Q2.

Specimens Q1 and Q2 are being retained in the files of the Laboratory. Photographic copies are being forwarded herewith.

Page Three

Laboratory Report No. B-16114

36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

L-40  
41372

Laboratory Field Sheet *Completed* 3:00 PM sl

RECORDED:

5-6-44 9:30 AM

Re: NIGHT RIDERS  
Security Matters

File # 100-300300-1  
Lab. # D-16114 ED  
100-300300-1

Examination requested by: Philadelphia (100-0)

Date of reference communication: 4-22-44 Let

Date received: 5-5-44 vlr

Examination requested: Document - fingerprint

Result of Examination:

Examination by: Rollins  
LATENT  
Knowles

Specimens submitted for examination

- (1) One window envelope, brg no postmark or return address.
- (2) One piece of white paper brg printing bgn "The Night Riders Ride Again!...."

*Specimens examined. no prints for identification / Lab slip.*

*Unrecorded by Lab*

*PA 5-13-44*

10-1-41  
Ink prints developed \_\_\_\_\_  
Silver nitrate prints on \_\_\_\_\_  
Identiscope negatives attached hereto \_\_\_\_\_

E. P. Coffey  
Assistant Director  
Laboratory

Per: \_\_\_\_\_

Room: \_\_\_\_\_

130 - 500000  
2629

# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Director, FBI  
FROM : SAQ, Philadelphia  
SUBJECT: NIGHT RIDERS  
SECURITY MATTER

DATE: April 22, 1944

*D. 16119*

Dr. JULIUS SOBEL, an osteopath with offices and residence at 214 Jefferson Avenue, Bristol, Pennsylvania, personally delivered the enclosed note to this office and explained that the note was found on his doorstep at approximately 8:30 p.m. on April 16, 1944.

Dr. SOBEL was not suspicious of any persons who may have placed this note on his doorstep and advised that he could recall no disgruntled patients and no persons with German sympathies in his vicinity who may have placed the note at his door. He stated, however, that during 1943, he was president of the Jewish Synagogue in Bristol, Pennsylvania, and stated that in view of this fact, some German sympathizer may have left the note in order to frighten him.

There is no information in the indices of this office relative to "Night Riders."

Enclosed note is being forwarded to you for inclusion in the Anonymous Letter file or such other disposition that you deem advisable.

It is requested that this office be advised if any pertinent information is contained in the files of the Bureau relative to "The Night Riders."

ENCLOSURE

SLC:mjj  
100-0

RECEIVED  
FBI  
APR 25 1944

300300

APR 25 1944

REC-5

5 MAY 1944 INDEXED LAB. FILES  
*plr*

( )      ( )

**Federal Bureau of Investigation**  
**United States Department of Justice**

Post Office Box 1387  
Charlotte, North Carolina

February 23, 1937

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

8

In reply to Bureau letter of February 19, 1937, advising that on February 12, 1937, there appeared an article in the "New York Sun" to the effect that Federal Agents have been asked to investigate a band of night riding floggers and that Solicitor John J. Burney stated that evidence had been sent to the Federal Bureau of Investigation at Charlotte, North Carolina, please be informed that John J. Burney is State Circuit Solicitor in Wilmington, North Carolina, and to date no information or communication has been received from Mr. Burney in the Charlotte Field Division or by any agent assigned here.

During my absence on February 12, 1937, there appeared an Associated Press dispatch in the Charlotte, North Carolina, "News," dated at Wilmington, North Carolina, February 12th, stating in effect the same as the item referred to in the "New York Sun" of the same date.

As you have been previously informed, these night rider activities and floggings have been current in several counties in Eastern North Carolina for the past eight or ten months. If any information is furnished the Charlotte Field Division pertaining to these activities, it will be immediately brought to the Bureau's attention and no action whatsoever will be taken by the Charlotte Division in the absence of specific Bureau instructions.

Very truly yours,

RECORDED  
&  
INDEXED

GKL:VED  
7-109

44-173-2  
G. R. Lowdon,  
Special Agent in Charge

EW  
L

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

Post Office Box 2116  
Detroit - Michigan  
May 20, 1936

*Threat to Kansas*

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

On May 7, 1936, Captain J. H. MALLON, Chief of Detectives, Michigan State Police, East Lansing, Michigan, called at this office, stating that he had just received information that members of the Black Legion who were responsible for the death of ROY FITCH in about September, 1936, had killed him while on a launch en route from Wyandotte, Michigan, to Fighting Island, which is Canadian property, located in the Detroit River about two and one-half miles from the mainland of the United States. The launch, according to Captain MALLON, is registered at Wyandotte, Michigan.

Captain MALLON advised that it was his understanding that the Detroit River was considered the high seas as far as Federal jurisdiction is concerned, and that if this crime, as alleged, did occur as claimed, this would constitute a violation over which this Bureau would have jurisdiction. He stated that the crimes committed by members of the Black Legion were so heinous that his organization was in hopes that we would be able to investigate the matter and if possible institute prosecution in Federal Court.

I informed Captain MALLON that this office had conducted an investigation whatever in connection with Black Legion activities, inasmuch as this had not been a matter coming within our jurisdiction. He stated that he had discussed the matter with Commissioner ROBERT L. MALLON of the Michigan State Police, and that if at all possible, they would like us to take up the matter and they would render every assistance possible. I gave him no hope whatever, but in answer to his request advised that I would let him know whether it would be possible for this Bureau to conduct any investigation.

Captain MALLON, who conducted extensive investigation in connection with Black Legion activities, stated that LAURENCE, a member of the Black Legion, who was convicted in 1936 for killing JAMES A. PUGH, which member had admitted and for which he was sentenced to serve life imprisonment in the Michigan State Prison, Jackson, Michigan, had recently informed him that on the night he killed PUGH, he (LEAN) and other members of the Black Legion met

RECORDED IN 45-1133-1

INDEXED

100-1577-17

on Jefferson Avenue, Detroit, Michigan. At the same time he was detailed to kill POOLE, ARTHUR WELLMAN, JOHN VANDERMAN, JOHN VINCENT, THOMAS CRAIG and one LEE were detailed to kill ROY PITCOCK.

According to Captain MARMON, PITCOCK, who was a member of the Black Legion, had married a Catholic woman, and because he would not leave this woman after becoming a member of the Black Legion, the members of the Legion threatened him with bodily harm. As a matter of fact, on one occasion he was taken out of his home by members of the Legion and severely beaten, and at that time warned that he would be killed if he did not leave his wife.

Captain MARMON further advised that upon being detailed to kill PITCOCK, ARTHUR WELLMAN and the others mentioned went to his home and awaited his return. At that time, PITCOCK was out for an automobile ride with his brother and upon arriving home, WELLMAN and the others took him out of bed and carried him to a launch which they had docked at Wyandotte. At that time PITCOCK was dressed in night clothes and was not permitted to take any other personal effects with him.

En route to Fighting Island, WELLMAN and the others choked PITCOCK with a wire which they fastened around his neck, and he was dead before they took him out of the boat on to the island, where he was later found by Officer SCHWARTZ of the Wyandotte Police Department and other officers who investigated the case. When found, PITCOCK was hanging to a rafter in an old deserted shack on the island. Although the floor of the shack was covered with coal ashes, the victim's bare feet were clean, indicating that he had been carried into the place and then hung to the rafter.

Regarding the evidence which might be available to prove in part at least that PITCOCK had been killed on the launch while in the Detroit River, Captain MARMON stated that he felt sure that JOHN VINCENT, a member of the murder party, who is now about sixty-five years of age, would confess if confronted by LEAN. The latter also advanced this idea, and stated he would be willing to confront all of these men in the hope of getting them to confess this murder. WELLMAN, VINCENT, VANDERMAN, CRAIG and LEE, according to Captain MARMON, are serving terms of years in the Michigan State Prison at Jackson.




In an effort to ascertain the Federal jurisdiction on the Detroit River, a hypothetical case was presented to Assistant United States Attorney JOHN W. BABCOCK, Detroit, Michigan, embodying the facts set forth herein. MR. BABCOCK stated that in his opinion there would be no doubt but what a person who had committed these acts would be guilty of kidnaping under the Federal Kidnaping Statute.

MR. BABCOCK further stated that off-hand he did not know the extent of Federal jurisdiction on the Detroit River, and that it would be necessary for him to look up a considerable amount of law on that point. He further stated that it was rather difficult to look up law on supposititious cases, and would not give any definite opinion until he had looked up the cases on the point of jurisdiction on the Detroit River.

In view of the fact that the Bureau has conducted no investigation into the activities of the Black Legion, it was not deemed advisable to advise the United States Attorney's office of the facts given by Captain MARION, inasmuch as publicity might ensue.

The Bureau is, therefore, respectfully requested to advise this office in the premises, in order that Captain MARION may be informed of the Bureau's position in this matter.

Very truly yours

  
Jay C. Newman  
Special Agent in Charge

KLR:MRA  
45-0

June 16, 1938.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE ASSISTANT TO THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
MR. JOSEPH E. RUTAN

The Detroit, Michigan, Division of this Bureau advises that Captain Ira M. Harmon, Chief of Detectives, Michigan State Police, East Lansing, Michigan, has furnished information to that office concerning the alleged murder of one Roy Pitcock on or about September, 1936, by members of the Black Legion. Information furnished by Captain Harmon indicates his informant has stated that Pitcock was killed on a launch while he was on the Detroit River, en route from Wyandotte, Michigan, to Fighting Island, the latter being Canadian property located on the Detroit River, about two and a half miles distant from the mainland of the United States. The launch, according to Captain Harmon, was registered at Wyandotte, Michigan.

Captain Harmon advised further that one Dayton Dean, a member of the Black Legion, who was convicted in 1936 for killing Charles A. Poole in connection with the activities of the Black Legion, being sentenced to serve life imprisonment in the Michigan State Penitentiary at Jackson, Michigan, recently informed him that on the night of Poole's death he, Dean, and other members of the Legion met on Jefferson Avenue in Detroit, at which time Dean was detailed to kill Poole, and Arthur Wellman, John Vannerman, John Vincent, Thomas Gray, and another party by the name of Lee were detailed to kill Roy Pitcock, the latter's death having allegedly been ordered because Pitcock refused to abandon his Catholic wife upon orders from the Black Legion, of which he was a member.

Dean furnished additional information, according to Captain Harmon, that the persons detailed to kill Pitcock upon the night in question went to Pitcock's home and there awaited his return, at which time they took him to a launch which they had previously docked at Wyandotte, Michigan, placing him in the launch and proceeding therein to Fighting Island; that, en route to Fighting Island, Wellman and the others mentioned above choked Pitcock with a wire they had fastened around his neck. According to Dean, Pitcock was dead when they removed him from the launch at Fighting Island, his body being subsequently found on the island by Officer Schwartz of the Wyandotte Police Department and other officers of that department who investigated the case. The body of Pitcock, at the time of its discovery by the police was found hang-

JUN 17 1938

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JUN 17 1938

*Em*

6-16-36

ing from the rafters of an old, deserted shack on the island and, although the floor of the shack was covered with coal ashes, the victim's bare feet were clean, indicating he had been carried into the place and then hung from the rafters.

With reference to the evidence which might be available to prove, in part, that Pitcock was killed on the launch while in the Detroit River, Captain Harmon has advised he feels sure one John Vincent, allegedly a member of the murder party and now about 65 years of age, would confess if he were confronted by Dean, who has stated he is willing to confront all of the alleged members of such murder party for the purpose of assisting in obtaining confessions from them. Bellman, Vincent, Vannorren, Craig, and Lee are all, according to Captain Harmon, now serving terms of years in the Michigan State Penitentiary at Jackson, Michigan.

Captain Harmon was advised by the Special Agent in Charge of the Bureau's Detroit office that this Bureau has conducted no investigation in connection with Black Legion activities, inasmuch as no evidence indicating federal violations within the Bureau's jurisdiction has previously been developed, and, while the Special Agent in Charge furnished no indication to Captain Harmon that this Bureau will conduct an investigation in connection with the above allegations, he did advise that officer that subsequent information will be furnished him as to whether the Bureau will conduct such an investigation.

In view of the fact that this Bureau is not conducting any investigation with regard to the activities of the Black Legion, it is requested that you advise concerning the wishes of the Department with regard to an inquiry in this matter. In this connection, it will be appreciated if you will furnish an opinion as to whether the above allegations, if true, would constitute a murder or the high seas, and whether these acts would come within the provisions of the Federal Kidnaping Statute.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

291

Department of Justice  
Washington

July 8, 1936

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. ROOSE  
DirectorFederal Bureau of Investigation

Reference is made to your memorandum of June 12 concerning the alleged murder of one, Ray Pateck, on or about September, 1936, by members of the Black Legion.

It is suggested that this matter be taken up with the United States Attorney at Detroit, Michigan, and the Bureau be guided by his advice with reference to any further investigation.

*Joseph B. Keenan*  
Joseph B. Keenan

The Assistant to the Attorney General

RECORDED  
44-1133-2  
*W. C. C.*

CHC:JW  
45-1139-2

July 25, 1936

Special Agent in Charge  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter dated May 20, 1936, containing information furnished your Division by Captain Ira E. Harson, Chief of Detectives, Michigan State Police, East Lansing, Michigan, to the effect that he has information indicating that certain members of the Black Legion who were responsible for the death of Ray Fitcock in about September, 1936, killed this party while on a launch en route from Wyandotte, Michigan, to Fighting Island, which is Canadian property, located in the Detroit river.

Please be advised that the information contained in your letter has been presented to the Department for an opinion as to whether any investigation should be conducted therein by this Bureau, and the Department has advised by memorandum dated July 5, 1936, that this matter should be taken up with the United States Attorney at Detroit, Michigan, whereupon this Bureau should be guided by the advice of the latter official with reference to any investigation.

You are accordingly instructed to discuss the facts of this matter with the United States Attorney at Detroit, Michigan, with regard to the opinion of that official as to whether or not a Federal violation within the investigative jurisdiction of the Bureau is involved. In this connection, it is requested that efforts be made to obtain from the United States Attorney a definite opinion as to what, if any, Federal violation is indicated in connection with the facts as originally furnished your office by Captain Harson, and further that an effort be made to obtain from the United States Attorney the nature of the investigation desired in case such official indicates that investigation by Agents of your office is necessary.

The Bureau desires to be advised concerning the results of your interview with the United States Attorney with regard to this matter, and in the event he indicates that investigation is necessary, the Bureau should be advised accordingly such fact as well as with regard to the nature of the contemplated investigation before any investigation whatsoever is taken by your Division.

Very truly yours,

JUL 25 1936  
DIRECTOR

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

Post Office Box 2116  
Detroit - Michigan  
August 5, 1938

Director,  
Federal Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

7  
Reference is made to Bureau letter dated July 25, 1938, (Bureau file 45-1133) in which it is instructed that the United States Attorney at Detroit, Michigan, be furnished with the facts concerning the alleged murder of ~~W. H. HITCHCOCK~~ about September 1936 while enroute from Wyandotte, Michigan, to Fighting Island, which is Canadian property, located in the Detroit River.

The information furnished this division by Captain IRVING S. MARWON, Chief of Detectives, Michigan State Police, East Lansing, Michigan, which was set forth in my letter to you dated May 20, 1938, was thoroughly discussed with Assistant United States Attorney JOHN S. BABCOCK who was Acting United States Attorney in the absence of Mr. JOHN C. LEHR, United States Attorney. Special Agent E. L. RICHMOND had this discussion with Mr. BABCOCK.

Mr. BABCOCK stated that, from these facts, it was his opinion that an investigation should be conducted by this Bureau to establish a violation of the kidnaping act and to establish a violation of murder on the high seas. In this discussion Mr. BABCOCK stated that Title 18, Section 553 of the United States Code states that the place of injury is deemed to be the place of murder and that, from the facts, apparently the injury was committed on the launch enroute to Fighting Island in the Detroit River. Mr. BABCOCK stated, therefore, that the murder took place on the Detroit River. Mr. BABCOCK stated that before any intensive investigation is conducted, it is the desire of the United States Attorney's office that the jurisdiction of the United States be established and, secondly, that ~~LEHR~~ give a written statement concerning the information which he furnished Captain MARWON to an agent of this Bureau. Mr. BABCOCK stated that when the jurisdiction has been established and a statement has been procured, he would authorize a prosecution, not only for violation of the federal kidnaping but for murder on the high seas.

45-1133-3  
W

RECEIVED AUG 10 1938

In discussing the violation of the kidnapping act, it was pointed out that, since the information by Samuel HARMON indicated that when DEAN arrived at the island, he was dead, there might be a question as to whether the kidnapping act would apply since FITZGERALD may have been dead at the time the international boundary line was crossed. Mr. BARBOCK stated that there would be a technical point there as to whether the transportation of a dead body across the international boundary line would constitute the transportation of an individual, as mentioned in the kidnapping act. However, Mr. BARBOCK stated that he believed that the indictment should be in two counts, one charging murder and the other charging kidnapping and the question of whether such an act was a violation of the kidnapping act would be one for the judge to instruct the jury.

Consequently, Mr. BARBOCK desires the following investigation to be conducted:

- (1) Establish the jurisdiction of the United States in this case, either -

- (a) That the launch upon which FITZGERALD was alleged to have been killed at the time the injury was inflicted was within the admiralty and maritime jurisdiction of the United States and out of the jurisdiction of the State of Michigan, and that the launch belonged to a citizen of the United States, or whole or in part to the United States, or to any corporation created by or under the laws of the United States, or any State, territory or district thereof;
- (b) That the launch was registered, licensed or enrolled under the laws of the United States.

- (2) Agents of this Bureau obtain a statement from EDMUND DEAN, containing the information furnished by Samuel HARMON regarding the murder.

It will be noted that the jurisdiction of the United States can be established either under (a) or (b) of point one. In attempting to establish that the launch was out of the jurisdiction of the State of Michigan at the time the injury was in-

listed, it will, of course, be necessary to obtain any agreements that may exist as to the jurisdiction on the Detroit River. In the event it can be established that the launch was enrolled under, registered or licensed under the laws of the United States, Mr. BABCOCK advised that it will not be necessary to establish that the launch at the time the injury was inflicted was out of the jurisdiction of the State of Michigan although it must be shown that at the time the injury was inflicted, the launch was on a voyage on the Detroit River.

In accordance with the letter of reference, the information is being furnished the Bureau concerning the discussion had with Mr. BABCOCK, and no investigation is being conducted at this time pending advice from the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

*John Edgar Hoover*

JOHN E. HOOVER  
Special Agent in Charge

ENCLOSURE  
45-40



Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

PAM:LL  
45-1133

Washington, D. C.

August 10, 1938

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

On May 7, 1938, Captain Ira H. Marmon, Chief of Detectives, Michigan State Police, informed the Detroit Field Division that Roy Pitcock was murdered by Arthur Wellman, John Vannerman, John Vincent, Thomas Craig, and one Lee, during September, 1936, on a motor launch, while en route from Wyandotte, Michigan, to Fighting Island in the Detroit River, which is Canadian property. All of these individuals were members of the Black Legion at Detroit, Michigan. Captain Marmon obtained his information from Dayton Dean, also a member of the Black Legion, who is now serving a life sentence for the murder of Charles A. Poole, who was a member of the Black Legion. All of the above mentioned individuals are now serving time at the Michigan State Prison, Jackson, Michigan. Captain Marmon brought this case to the attention of the Detroit Field Division because of the fact that Pitcock was murdered outside the jurisdiction of the State of Michigan, and he was of the opinion that prosecution could be had in the Federal courts.

The above facts were submitted to Honorable Joseph B. Keenan, The Assistant to the Attorney General, by Bureau memorandum dated June 16, 1938, and in reply thereto by memorandum of July 5, 1938, he informed that the matter should be taken up with the United States Attorney, Detroit, Michigan, and that the Bureau should be guided by his advice with reference to any further investigation.

The facts of the case were presented to Mr. John W. Patcock, Assistant United States Attorney, Detroit, Michigan, who is of the opinion that the facts set forth above possibly constitute a murder on the high seas and also a violation of the Kidnaping Statute. He requested the Detroit Field Division to conduct an investigation to ascertain the jurisdiction of the United States and also to obtain a statement from Dayton Dean containing the information that Dean furnished Captain Marmon.

RECORDED

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*William J. ...*  
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Memo. for  
the Director

- 2 -

August 10, 1938

In accordance with Bureau instructions, the Detroit Field Division is conducting no further investigation in this matter, pending advice from the Bureau. It will be recalled the Black Legion was investigated by the Detroit Police Department after information was obtained of several murders and assaults committed by this organization.

Respectfully,

*P. E. Foxworth*  
P. E. Foxworth

RECORDED  
GENERAL  
45-1133 -3

August 12, 1936

Special Agent in Charge  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to your letter of August 5, 1936, concerning the alleged murder of Ray Pitcock about September, 1936, while en route from Wyandotte, Michigan, to Fighting Island located in the Detroit River, and in which you outline the investigative procedure which is contemplated by your office as requested by Assistant United States Attorney John V. Babcock.

The Bureau desires that you conduct investigation as outlined in your letter for the purpose of determining whether there is any violation of a Federal statute involved in connection with the alleged murder of Ray Pitcock. In the event the United States Attorney determines from this investigation that there has been a violation of the Kidnapping Act or Murder on the High Seas, it is desired that a thorough investigation be made with a view of prosecuting the persons involved.

You should keep the Bureau promptly advised as to the progress of this investigation and as to any important developments.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

45-1133-3  
Aug 12 1936  
X

CHC:VCH  
49-1133

October 27, 1938

Special Agent in Charge  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated August 17, 1938, which referred to previous correspondence had with your Division concerning the alleged murder of Roy Pitcock about September 1936, while en route from Wyandotte, Michigan, to Fighting Island located in the Detroit River. It is noted that you were requested in reference letter to conduct an appropriate investigation with regard to this matter in accordance with the previous request by Assistant United States Attorney John W. Babcock, Detroit, Michigan.

The Bureau's file with regard to the above matter fails to reflect the receipt of information from your office concerning this investigation to date, and it is desired that you advise immediately concerning the action taken by your Division in connection with the investigation of this matter. The Bureau desires that the necessary investigation with regard to this case be handled as promptly as possible, in order that same may be completed at the earliest possible date, and as you have been previously instructed the Bureau should be kept promptly and fully advised as to the results of the investigation in question.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Tolson  
E. A. Tamm  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Rosen  
Tracy  
Harbo  
Mohr  
Tele. Rm.  
Mr. Nease  
Miss Gandy

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EX

CHC

CHE:RD  
45-1133-

November 16, 1938

45-1133

Special Agent in Charge  
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to previous correspondence had with you concerning the alleged murder of Roy Fitzcock about September, 1934, while en route from Wyandotte, Michigan, to Fighting Island located in the Detroit River, it being noted that you have been requested to conduct an appropriate investigation with regard to this matter in accordance with the previous request by Assistant United States Attorney John W. Babcock, Detroit, Michigan.

It is further noted that you were requested in Bureau letter dated October 27, 1938, to furnish prompt information concerning the action taken by your Division in connection with the investigation of this matter, a reply having been received from your office to date.

You have been previously informed that the Bureau desires the necessary investigation in this matter handled expeditiously in order that same may be completed at the earliest possible date, in which connection you were instructed to keep the Bureau promptly and fully advised with regard to all developments in connection with instant investigation.

You are if the above you are directed to furnish the Bureau with an appropriate report within ten days from the receipt of this letter, setting forth in detail the results of the investigation and all developments with regard to this matter to date.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

45-1133-5

11/18/38

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CHC:AM  
45-1193FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
-----

DECEMBER 2, 1930

To. COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to: DETROIT

WATSON, RAY PITCOCK, VICTIM; SHIP ON HIGH SEAS; KIDNAPING. URGENT  
IMMEDIATELY REPORT REQUESTED BUREAU LETTER DATED NOVEMBER SIXTEENTH.

HOOVER

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| 45-1193-1                       |
| FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION |
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| U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE     |

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**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

Detroit, Michigan  
December 12, 1938

RECEIVED  
AND  
CONFIDENTIAL

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: JOHN L. BARKER, et al;  
ROY THOMAS - Victim;  
Black Legion; Black ON  
The Black Legion.

Dear Sir:

During the interview with LAYTON BARKER regarding instant case, BARKER persisted in furnishing all information he could with reference to Black Legion activities along other lines, and in the course of the questioning advised that ROBERT A. FICKERT, Commissioner of Police, Detroit, Michigan, was taken into the Black Legion and the oath administered to him by Colonel ROY BARKER.

BARKER stated that FICKERT was seen at meetings by him, and that after the various hearings in regard to prosecutions for murders committed by members of the Legion, several inspectors in the Detroit Police Department were raised to the position of Assistant Chief of Police, due to their knowledge of FICKERT's relationship with the Legion.

BARKER also advised that the following individuals were members of the Black Legion in this district, to his knowledge:

- 1. EUGENE WARD, Judge of Common Pleas Court, Detroit, Michigan
- 2. EUGENE WARD, Captain, Michigan State Police, Detroit, Michigan
- 3. ROBERT BARKER, former candidate for Mayor in Detroit
- 4. ROY BARKER, recent candidate for Governor in Michigan, and a member of the Black Legion, Governor-elect of Michigan

45-111-17  
Guth  
38

~~Personal and Confidential~~  
Letter to Director from  
SAC Detroit

December 12, 1936

47-46

JOHN WILLIAMS, well-known politician,  
Detroit, Michigan  
BUNGAN McCREA, Wayne County Prosecutor,  
Detroit, Michigan  
E. ALBRECHT, politician, Detroit,  
Michigan

WALTER DEAN stated that he was certain all of the above-named individuals were members of the Black Legion in 1936. He advised that he had seen BUNGAN McCREA at a Black Legion meeting which took place in a farmer's field one and one-half miles north of Oxford, Michigan; that McCREA took the oath of the Black Legion before IRA ALBRECHT; and that ALBRECHT was taken into the Legion at a meeting held in a field near John R and eighteen or nineteen mile road, at which meeting he (Dean) also was present.

During the questioning, DEAN appeared to have an ill feeling toward anyone except the members of the Legion who caused him to become a member and to get into his present predicament. He stated that he did not blame any of these men individually, but that he held his grievance particularly against IRA ALBRECHT, who sent out the men to organize the Michigan District.

It will be noted from the report submitted in this case that WILLIAMS resides at Lima, Ohio, and is reported to have been at the head of the Black Legion in the area covering the north-eastern part of the United States from Illinois to the Atlantic Ocean.

It is apparent from the investigation conducted to date by Special Agent H. A. Loughran of this office that, in all probability, the only persons who definitely know of the place where ROY PATTON was murdered are the members of the party who were at the time.

In accordance with Bureau letter dated August 10, 1936, the lead set forth in the report of Special Agent H. A. Loughran, dated September 6, 1936, at Detroit, Michigan, will be covered in the near future, unless otherwise advised by the Bureau.

Very truly yours

*John A. Loughran*

JOHN A. LOUGHRAN  
Special Agent in Charge

WHL:era



# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **DETROIT, MICHIGAN**

FILE NO. **45-46**

|   |                                  |   |   |
|---|----------------------------------|---|---|
| REPORT MADE AT<br><b>DETROIT, MICHIGAN</b>  | DATE WHEN MADE<br><b>12/4/38</b> | PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE<br><b>10/20/38 to 11/1/38</b> | REPORT MADE BY<br><b>H. A. LOUGHRAN</b>                             |
| TITLE<br><b>JOHN BARKERMAN; JOHN R. MITCHELL; THOMAS CRAIG;<br/>VERDIE MORROW; ALBERT STEVENS;<br/>ROY PITCOCK - VICTIM</b> |                                  |   | CHARACTER OF CASE<br><b>KIDNAPING; MURDER ON THE<br/>HIGH SEAS.</b> |

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

**DAYTON DEAN**, #40101, State Prison of Southern Michigan, Jackson, Michigan, serving a life sentence for a Black Legion murder, in a signed statement implicates above Subjects in the kidnaping and murder of **ROY PITCOCK** on the night of May 12, 1936, when he was taken from his home in Wyandotte, Michigan, and subsequently was found dead on Fighting Island, in the Detroit River, on the Canadian side of the international boundary. Information received that Subject was transported by boat and killed by strangulation enroute across Detroit River. Boat used and actual place of attack and death not as yet ascertained.

**REFERENCES:**

Letter to the Bureau from the Detroit Office dated May 20, 1938.

Bureau letter to the Detroit Office dated July 25, 1938.

Letter to the Bureau from the Detroit Office dated August 9, 1938.

Bureau letter to the Detroit Office dated August 12, 1938.

|   |                                  |
|---|----------------------------------|
| <p><i>John H. Hughes</i></p> <p>COPIES OF THIS REPORT</p> <p>3 Bureau<br/>2 St. Paul<br/>1 Cleveland<br/>1 Philadelphia<br/>1 U.S.A., Detroit<br/>2 Detroit</p> | <p>45-1133-3</p> <p>03-17-38</p> |
|---|----------------------------------|

Detroit file 445-46

DETAILS:

From a memorandum in the file of instant case it was revealed that on May 7, 1936, IRA H. MARSHON, Captain, Michigan State Police, East Lansing, Michigan, called at the Detroit Bureau Office and stated that he had just received information that members of the Black Legion were responsible for the death of ROY PITCOCK, about September, 1936, and that he had been killed while on a launch enroute from Wyandotte, Michigan to Fighting Island, which is Canadian property located in the Detroit River about two and one-half miles from the mainland of the United States; that the launch was reported to have been registered at Wyandotte, Michigan, although the name thereof was not known.

Captain MARSHON further stated that DAYTON DEAN, a member of the Black Legion convicted in 1936 for the killing of CHARLES A. POOLE, which murder DEAN had admitted and for which he was serving a life imprisonment sentence in the Michigan State Prison at Jackson, Michigan, and recently informed him that on the night he killed POOLE, he, DEAN, and other members of the Black Legion met on Jefferson Avenue in Detroit, Michigan, and at the same time that he was detailed to kill POOLE, ARTHUR WELLMAN, JOHN VANNEPOMAN, JOHN VINCENT, THOMAS CRAIG, and one LEE were detailed to kill ROY PITCOCK. PITCOCK was killed because he had refused to leave his wife and had been a member of the Black Legion, while his wife was a Catholic.

Captain MARSHON further advised that upon being detailed to kill PITCOCK, WELLMAN and the others above mentioned, went to his home and awaited his return; that upon his arrival home they took him out of bed and carried him to a launch, which they had docked at Wyandotte; that he was dressed only in his night clothes and he was not permitted to take any other personal effects with him; that enroute to Fighting Island, on the boat, WELLMAN and the others choked PITCOCK with a wire, which they fastened around his neck, and he was dead before they took him out of the boat onto the island, where he was later found by Officer SCHWARTZ of the Wyandotte, Michigan Police Department and other officers who investigated the case; that they found him hanging to a rafters in an old deserted shack on the island, and that although the floor of the shack was covered with coal ashes, the victim's bare feet were clean, indicating that he had been carried into the place and then hung to the rafters. Captain MARSHON felt sure that JOHN VINCENT reportedly a member of the murder party, now about sixty-five years of age, would confess to the murder, if confronted by DEAN. DEAN had also arranged this case and stated that he would be willing to

Detroit File #45-46

confront all of these men in the hope of getting them to confess. All of the above were reported by Captain MAWSON to be serving terms of years at the Michigan State Prison, Jackson, Michigan.

Under date of May 20, 1938, this office forwarded the above information to the Bureau, after JOHN W. BAROOK, Assistant United States Attorney at Detroit, Michigan, had been consulted regarding a hypothetical case concerning Federal jurisdiction on the Detroit River. MR. BAROOK had advised that, in his opinion, there would be no doubt but that a person who had committed these acts would be guilty of kidnapping under the Federal Kidnaping Statute. MR. BAROOK had advised that he did not know offhand the extent of Federal jurisdiction on the Detroit River, and it would be necessary for him to look up a considerable amount of law on that question; that he would not look up the law until the definite facts on some particular case were presented to him. The Bureau was respectfully requested to advise this office in the premises.

Under date of July 23, 1938, the Bureau advised that the information received had been presented to the Department for an opinion as to whether any investigation should be conducted therein by this Bureau, and the Department had advised that the matter should be taken up with the United States Attorney at Detroit, Michigan, and this office should be guided by his advice. The Bureau requested that the United States Attorney state a definite opinion as to what, if any, Federal violation was indicated in connection with the above facts. The Bureau also requested to be advised of whatever investigation was contemplated by this office prior to the undertaking thereof.

Under date of August 5, 1938, the Detroit Office advised the Bureau of an interview with Assistant United States Attorney JOHN W. BAROOK, who was Acting United States Attorney in the absence of MR. JOHN C. LEHR, by Special Agent E. L. RICHMOND. MR. BAROOK advised Special Agent RICHMOND that from the facts presented, it was his opinion that an investigation should be conducted by this Bureau to establish a violation of the Kidnaping Act and to establish a violation for Murder on the High Seas. He further stated that Title 18, Section 563, United States Code, states that the place of injury is deemed to be the place of murder, and that, from the facts, apparently the injury was committed while the launch was enroute to Fighting Island, in the Detroit River. Therefore, the murder took place on the Detroit River, and before any extensive investigation was conducted, it was the desire of the United States Attorney's office that the jurisdiction of the United

Detroit File #45-46

Source be first established, and secondly, that DAYTON DEAN give a written statement, concerning the information he had furnished Captain MARSH, to an Agent of this Bureau. MR. BARCOCK advised that if jurisdiction were established and a statement procured, he would authorize prosecution, not only for violation of the Federal Kidnaping Statute, but for Murder on the High Seas.

MR. BARCOCK stated that instant offense may not have been a violation of the Federal Kidnaping Statute, inasmuch as PITCOCK may have been dead at the time of the crossing of the international boundary line, and it would be a technical point as to whether the transportation of a dead body across the international boundary line would constitute the kidnaping of an individual. MR. BARCOCK stated that he believed that the indictment should be in two counts, one charging murder and the other charging kidnaping, and the question of whether such an act was a violation of the kidnaping act would be one for the judge to instruct the jury.

MR. BARCOCK requested that investigation be conducted to establish the jurisdiction of the United States in this case and to prove either:

- (a) That the launch upon which PITCOCK was alleged to have been killed at the time the injury was inflicted was within the admiralty and maritime jurisdiction of the United States and out of the jurisdiction of the State of Michigan, and that the launch belonged to a citizen of the United States, or whole or in part to the United States, or to any corporation created by or under the laws of the United States, or any State, territory or district thereof; or
- (b) That the launch was registered, licensed or enrolled under the laws of the United States.

He also requested that Agents of this Bureau obtain from DAYTON DEAN a statement concerning the information furnished by Captain MARSH regarding the murder.

He further stated that in attempting to establish that the launch was out of the jurisdictions of the State of Michigan at the time the injury was inflicted, it would be necessary to

Detroit File #44-68

Obtain any agreements which may exist as to the jurisdiction on the Detroit River, but that in the event the launch was scuttled under, registered, or licensed under the laws of the United States, it would not be necessary to establish that the launch was outside of the jurisdiction of the State of Michigan at the time of the injury, through it must be established that it was on a voyage on the Detroit River.

Under date of August 18, 1936 the Bureau requested that this office conduct investigation as outlined in the above letter regarding the alleged murder of ROY PITCOCK, and that if any violation were established in regard to either of the offenses that a thorough investigation be made with a view of prosecuting the persons involved.

67D  
[REDACTED] State Prison of Southern Michigan, Jackson, Michigan, advised that DAYTON DEAN was serving a life sentence at that institution under number 48101. Through arrangements made with Warden ROEL MOORE, DAYTON DEAN was interviewed in a private office adjacent to the Warden's office, and after a discussion with him of the facts involved in instant case, he furnished the following signed statement, which is being made a part of the file of the Detroit Office:

State Prison of Southern Mich.,  
Jackson, Michigan,  
September 26, 1936

"I, Dayton Dean, state that I wish to make the following voluntary statement to E. A. Loughran, Special Agent, Federal Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Dept. of Justice, without any threats or promise of reward.

"About May 12, 1936, I was a member of the Black Legion in Detroit, Mich. On the above night I attended a group meeting called at the Masonic Temple at West Lafayette & Waterman, Detroit, Mich. The men I recall being at this meeting were Harvey Davis, Colonel in the Legion; Jack Zimmerman, a Lieutenant Colonel; Lieutenant Colonel Blackball; Ervin Lee, his Adjutant; John Mitchell, Louis Womack, Albert Stevens, Virgil Morris, John Vincent, Thomas Davis, Edgar Williams, Irving Lingo, I was never known, Michael, [REDACTED], was named Harvey, Virgil was not known, Paul Edwards, and a man they called the White or Red Russian (known to Police Department officials in Detroit, Mich.), and about 50 or 60 men in all, the names of the

Detroit File #45-44

others not being recalled to me except Oscar Whiteside. Of the above group Davis, Baldwin, Lee, Lipps, Johnson, Edwards and myself went out to Gailley Road. The others above named were supposed to have gone out with us as far as I know but Davis said when we got there that they must have got lost. At the Macchie Hall I saw a suitcase in the hall that had a 50 to 60 foot rope and some masks and robes but this was not taken by Davis or our group. Davis was in charge of our group. Bannerman was a Lieut. Colonel and was in charge of the group, above named, that failed to show up. About four hours later we met in front of the German Inn on Fort Street, West, Detroit, between Clark and Livernois - that is Bannerman's son (without Bannerman) met Davis and the group of us that had been with him. They had arrived before we had and had had a beer before we got there. Davis said to them if they had "got through all right" and Craig answered that they had. They asked Davis if he got through with his all right and he said he had. In the other group was Craig, Stevens, Morrow, and possibly Mitchell. They had apparently dropped off Bannerman as Davis had asked if Bannerman had taken care of things and he was told by Craig or Stevens that he had. I did not know what they were talking about at the time and when I saw the papers a few days later when they found the body of Pitcock on Fighting Island I recalled Davis having said they had a man down at Hyndette that they had to take care of. He had been talking about getting ahead of the mayor of Ecorse, Mr. Volsine, that he had to take care of - that they had to be taken for a ride. I later read the article on Pitcock's murder in the True or Official Detective Magazine in January or February, 1937 which was an anonymous article - this article was written by someone who was a member of the Legion and coupled with what I had heard and seen I feel as though it is very authentic.

"The Legion was organized by the members like the United States Army and the information emanated from the higher officials so that when it came down the line it never went below the Captain - this was as to such things as murders that were to be done by the members and the members did not know what they were to do until they got to the place where the act was to be done. As I was a private at that time I did not have the information

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what they had been ordered to do on May 18, 1936, but I had previously been on the staff of the State of Michigan for the Black Legion and had acted as a Major so that I am completely aware of what had happened in the past and how they operated. When our group headed for Gullay Wood on May 18, 1936, we went out there for the purpose of doing away with Charles Poole who was shot that night by our group. I have read the above 4 pages including this page and have signed the other 2 pages as well as this page as the facts related above are true

/s/ Dayton J. Ryan

Witnessed:

H. A. Loughran, Special Agent /s/  
FBI US Dept of Justice  
911 Federal Bldg., Detroit, Mich.

Jack Colton, Trooper /s/  
Jackson Port., Michigan State Police

DEAN stated he was certain that ARTHUR WILLMAN had no connection with instant case and that he had never advised anyone that WILLMAN was so connected.

DEAN stated during the above interview that he did not realize what he was being called for and that he had considerably more information in notes he had made about the time of his trial, but these notes were in his room and if Agent could subsequently interview him, and also possibly interview FRED GULLEY, #38677, Jackson Prison, with whom he had talked a great deal regarding the Black Legion since his incarceration, he thought he might be able to add substantially to what he had already stated. However, in addition to the statement he furnished the following information:

That BERT EYFINGER, whose true name he stated was EVANS F. EYFINGER, and who resided at Lima, Ohio, was the head of the Black Legion in the northeastern part of the United States, from Illinois to the Atlantic coast; that EYFINGER was reported to work under one "MARTIN" WERNER, reported as recently living somewhere in Pennsylvania; that WERNER worked under the

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one man who was at the head of the Black Legion in the entire United States, whose name was not known to DEAN or ever heard by him, but who is reported to live some place in the South. The Legion was divided into fourteen corps areas built upon the same plan as the United States Army. The original plan of the Black Legion was to get in as many influential men as possible and to obtain information involving any criminal activities on their part, to be used as a threat and held over their heads to control them, and when sufficiently organized to take over the Government of the United States. The original date set for the taking over of the Government was September 14, 1936.

DEAN stated that he recalled that BERT KYDGER had addressed a local group of Black Legion members in the Detroit area, and that he told them that 1. he only takes thirty thousand Russians to overthrow the government of the Czar. DEAN advised that at the time of that talk he stated they had between fifteen thousand and twenty thousand members, although DEAN stated he believed that was the height of the membership of the organization, and that after all of the publicity in Detroit, its real purpose became known and its membership decreased. However, he stated he had received information that the Black Legion was at present reorganizing under different names such as The Iron Guard, The Century Club, The Patriotic League of America, The Black Owl, and The Wolverine Republican Club.

DEAN stated he was certain that during the short time the Legion operated in the State of Michigan the members committed between thirty and forty murders in the Detroit District. He mentioned the names of several prominent individuals as members of the Legion, stating that he had seen them at meetings and could definitely prove who had sworn them in. The names of such persons are being submitted under separate cover to the Bureau.

DEAN further stated that JACK HANVILL and CHARLES MURPHY of the Detroit, Michigan Police Department had a list of all the members of the Legion in Detroit; that they had worked on the case for a long time; and that he considered both of them as thoroughly reliable to interview.

In addition to the information furnished during the first interview, DEAN, upon reinterrogation, subsequently advised that he had recalled with the help of his records that on the night of the POOLE murder HAROLD LAMMERS, a Lieutenant Colonel in the Black Legion in the Twelfth Regiment, and CHARLES KING, a major in



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The same regiment, WILSON BENTON, a General in the Michigan crew, JOHN VINCENT, OTTO KASCHULA, an Adjutant under JOHN BARRICKAS, who has never been prosecuted, LOUIS SCHMIDT, MICHAEL LATON, JOHN FREILING, and JAMES BLACKHALL had also been at the above referred to meeting; that subsequently in the January or February, 1937 issues of the True Detective Magazine there had been an article on the FITCOCK murder by an anonymous writer and whoever wrote this article had to be one of the parties that was present at the time FITCOCK was murdered; that I, UHAN, felt quite certain that OTTO KASCHULA wrote this article. He believed that out of the above group, including the Subjects already enumerated, that ALBERT STEVENS or VIRGIL MORROW would be the two easiest men to break and obtain a confession from.

UHAN stated that SGT BOWLINGER, a detective on the Ecorse, Michigan Police Department, who had been taken into the Black Legion through machine gun tactics, had always detected the Legion, and that he would probably be a reliable informant to ascertain who owned the launch that was used in instant murder; that he also had a list of all the members of the Black Legion in Ypsilanti and Wyandotte, Michigan.

UHAN stated that he was quite certain that the best way to the trip to Fighting Island belonged to a member of the Black Legion. He further stated that he had recalled since his first interview that one of the men in the party on the way out to Colley Road had made the remark, "The boys down there will take care of the matter"; that after he had heard of the body of FITCOCK being found he immediately connected this remark up with the case, as there had been some previous conversation which fit in, but which he could not recall.

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Regarding [redacted] of the Wyandotte, Michigan Police Department, UHAN stated he might be reliable, although his partner, with whom he was almost constantly with, was a member of the Black Legion as was KENNEDY, also on the Police Department. UHAN further recalled that on the way out from Keweenaw Hall he heard LEE and DAVIS remark that they had thought they should get JOHN MITCHELL out on one of the jobs so that they would have something on him if he were elected to the office he was running for, and UHAN believed that MITCHELL probably drove the car that BARRICKAS and UHAN rode in on the way out to FITCOCK'S house. However, as the two parties did not leave together, UHAN was unable to recall why he had this recollection.

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RAYMOND DEAN and WEND GULLY, above-mentioned, were interviewed together subsequently, and GULLY advised that he resided at 4404 First Street, Ecorse, Michigan; that he expected to be paroled about November 1, 1936; and that DEAN and himself had agreed to do all that they could to break up the Black Legion, as they both felt they had been definitely framed and were made the goats in the case. He stated that he joined the Legion with an automatic revolver stuck in his back by one of the Legion members, and was told to take the oath or he would be shot; that he had kept in touch with Mayor VOISINE of Ecorse, Michigan in regard to everything he did in the Legion; and that he continued to follow out orders received as a result of Mayor VOISINE'S suggestion that he do so and keep him informed. He stated that when he went out the night that he accompanied the crowd, upon which his case was based and upon which he was convicted and sent to the State Penitentiary, he had called Mayor VOISINE prior to going, and that he was convicted subsequently because somebody found out about his contacts with VOISINE and pushed the prosecution against him; that the members of the Black Legion were stronger than Mayor VOISINE and as a result he was convicted. He stated that after his release from the Penitentiary he would do anything he could to help the Bureau in the solution of instant case if he were called upon to do so; and that he did not care for any remuneration as a result of anything he was able to accomplish.

He stated as a preliminary history to the Legion that HAROLD LAWRENCE, a Major in the Black Legion, was the organizer at Wyandotte and Ecorse, Michigan; that prior to the time that LAWRENCE was the organizer, one CHARLES KING, a leader in the organizational work had been in charge around that district; and that KING was in charge of organization at the time of the PITCOCK murder. He advised that it is his impression that both men were probably in on this, although it will be noted that GULLY was not at the Massey Hall on the night of the meeting related by DEAN, so that his assertion would only be inferential. ED DOUGHTY, a Black Legion member formerly residing in Wyandotte, Michigan, who is now reported to be in Pontiac, Michigan, was also believed to have been along with the murder party in instant case.

WEND GULLY stated that there were at least twenty to twenty-five docks where boats were kept on the waterfront at Wyandotte and Ecorse, Michigan and he had no idea whose boat was used on the occasion of the murder.

He further advised that one HARRY BRANCE, who had

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been employed by the Wyandotte Oil and Fat Company, Wyandotte, Michigan, and who was employed there at the same time as was GULLEY, was assigned to the manufacture of a gas of a highly explosive nature developed from the ceyteum oil; and that this man was thoroughly familiar with the explosive nature of the gas and also with the fact that a slight amount of heat was all that was necessary to set it off. He stated that this party was working about sixty feet above the floor level at the above company, as he recalled, along in February, 1936; that an explosion occurred where he was working and he landed about six feet from GULLEY on the floor below. He was reported to have put a blow torch to the pipes where the explosive gas was carried in order to blow out a solidified mass. GULLEY stated he was absolutely certain that BRANCH never would have committed an act of this kind, and that his death was caused by a deliberate explosion of some nature executed by members of the Black Legion, who were very active in the plant, and that BRANCH was actually killed because he had been taken in on the proposed murder of ROY PITCOCK and had threatened to talk. GULLEY further stated he was quite certain that several members of the Black Legion around Wyandotte and Ecorse, Michigan, had boats.

Captain IRA H. MANNON, Detective Bureau, Michigan State Police, was subsequently interviewed at the Detroit Bureau Office and advised that MRS. ROY PITCOCK had been a housekeeper for a Captain on the Detroit, Michigan Police Department;

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[REDACTED]

she met ROY PITCOCK. She told him of her past history and he accepted her and married her. The Black Legion, of whom PITCOCK was a member subsequently found out about MRS. PITCOCK's derogatory past life and told PITCOCK that he would have to leave his wife. He refused and the members of the Legion took him out and beat him on his back and released him, telling him that he would have to leave her, and threatening to kill him if he did not. Thereupon, after he persistently refused to do so, his body was found on Fighting Island.

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Captain HARMON stated he believed the boat used in the murder was owned by a man who had fallen off a scaffolding in Wyandotte, Michigan, at the time of an explosion in the plant where he was working, and he believed this party had been along on the night of the PITCOCK murder. Captain HARMON stated that PITCOCK's body was found by the Canadian Provincial Police and taken to the Canadian shore, so that any coroner's inquest would probably be held at Windsor, Ontario. He stated the [redacted] of the [redacted] Police Department was believed to have the name of the man who owned the boat used in the PITCOCK murder, and was believed to have other information of value, but he did not feel the [redacted] would cooperate, as his partner, [redacted] was a member of the Black Legion and [redacted] would probably be afraid to reveal the information he had.

Captain HARMON was questioned as to whether DUTTON DEAN had advised him that ARTHUR HELLMAN was connected with instant case. He stated he was not certain as to whether DEAN had connected HELLMAN with this case, or with one of the other murders committed in the Michigan area. He suggested that Agent interview Detective Lieutenant WILLIAM HATKINS of the Michigan State Police, who worked on the case and was much more familiar with the facts than was he.

Lieutenant WILLIAM HATKINS, Detective Bureau, Michigan State Police, subsequently contacted the writer at the Detroit Bureau Office and stated he had never heard of ARTHUR HELLMAN being mixed up in the PITCOCK murder; that he believed that Captain HARMON had become confused in regard to another murder at the time he furnished the original information. He stated further that in 1936 or about that time the Black Legion was responsible for the hanging on the Nine Mile Road, in Macomb County, of another individual, whose name he did not know. He did not know that DUTTON DEAN was present at this hanging. He stated that after the hanging a certain group of the members buried the individual; that DEAN should be questioned as to whom these latter members were, as he believed that they had a lot of information regarding the murder of ROY PITCOCK.

Lieutenant HATKINS further was under the impression that any member of the Police Department at Wyandotte, Michigan, would be of very little help in instant case; that he had attempted on several occasions to obtain information from practically all the members of the Police Department, including [redacted] and [redacted] regarding the murders in which the Black Legion was believed to

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to have been involved, but had never received any help of any kind. He stated that VINCENT FITZGERALD, the Prosecutor of Macomb County, Mt. Clemens, Michigan, had a vast amount of information regarding crimes committed by the Black Legion and that he would cooperate thoroughly with Agents of this Bureau. He stated he did not know, however, if FITZGERALD had any information regarding the PITCOCK murder. He stated that the Sheriff and every Deputy employed by him in Macomb County were members of the Black Legion, as was a man named TRIMBLE, the Assistant Prosecutor under MR. FITZGERALD, but he felt that ART KESSE, Chief of Police at Mt. Clemens, Michigan, was probably reliable.

Lieutenant WATKINS further advised that ART BRANSTANTNER, a patrolman attached to the Port Precinct located at Fort and Green Streets, Detroit, Michigan, was a graduate of the Michigan State Police School; that he believed he would cooperate with the Bureau in regard to instant case; and that he was acquainted with practically everyone in Wyandotte and Ecorse, Michigan. He further stated that one WALTER FIERCE, a former Sergeant on the Pontiac, Michigan Police Department, and also a former member of the Black Legion, admitted to him on one occasion that he had attended a hanging in Ohio. However, when WATKINS attempted to get this information from him before some other witnesses, he denied he had ever made the statement. He believes that FIERCE was a colonel in the Legion and that through that ranking would probably have information regarding the PITCOCK murder and as to who was detailed to it; that at the present time FIERCE was believed to be around Wyandotte, Michigan; that he had "gotten religion" and belonged to some gospel church in that section. He thought that FIERCE should be located and questioned.

Lieutenant WATKINS further stated that there were a lot of high class men who were taken into the Legion, and who after joining it never had anything more to do with it. A few others, of what he considers a very high type, had also been taken into the Legion and taken to a few meetings by force before they realized that they had become involved in it. He further stated that members of the Black Legion were of two types: one of the lower mental class, who were required to take the oath of allegiance to the Legion involving the overthrow of the United States Government, and the higher type group, who were not to know the real purpose for which the Legion was organized. He stated he felt quite certain from information he had that even certain members of his own organization had been taken in, but that they had not known the real purpose of the organization, and had never attended any of the meetings. Lieutenant WATKINS stated that STANLEY PERGUSON, former Chief of Police of the Great Lakes

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Steel Company, Ecorse, Michigan, had a great deal of information regarding the Legion's activities in that neighborhood, and might have some information regarding the PITCOCK murder; that this man was presently not employed by the Great Lakes Steel Company and he did not know where he might be located. Another person he believed reliable was one FRANK LAMBLE, who resides at either Wyandotte, Trenton, or River Rouge, Michigan, and whose father was the former Chief of Police at Trenton. Lieutenant HARRIS stated that this party might be cautious as to what information he furnished if interviewed by a stranger and if any trouble were had in getting him to talk about the Black Legion, arrangements should be made to have Lieutenant HARRIS accompany the Agent on the next interview.

Lieutenant HARRIS further advised that the Black Legion is being presently reorganized under various names, the only one of which he was personally acquainted with being, The Patriotic League of America; that in Michigan the man at the head of the organization was one RAY KENST, reportedly located at Jackson, Michigan; and that he had admitted he was working under HERT SPYINGER in Lima, Ohio.

Under date of October 3, 1938, the Blue Streak of The Detroit News carried a headline entitled: "Black Legion Sentences Killed. Court Grants Re-Trials for Nine of the Reputed Members Convicted Eighteen Months Ago for Plotting to Kill ANTHONY J. MITCHELL, Highland Park Publisher". The nine men who were sentenced are ROY REIMER, serving two to five years; ARTHUR F. LUFF, Senior, serving two to five years; ALVIN CLARK, serving two to five years; FRANK HOWARD, HOWARD KIPPLING WILLMAN, M. W. MAPLELAND, WILLARD FOSTER, MATTHIAS JONES, and EUGENE JAMES, all out on bond. The article stated that LUFF was the former head of the Black Legion in Michigan, and that MAPLELAND was the former Mayor of Highland Park, Michigan.

Police Department, were interviewed and advised from their records that HANDELMAN, MITCHELL, CRAIG, MORROW and STEVENS were all serving time in institutions in the State of Michigan; that HANDELMAN, CRAIG and STEVENS were serving time at the State Penitentiary at Jackson, Michigan; and that they believed that VINCE MORROW was serving time at the Detroit House of Correction. Their records showed that OTTO BASKILLA had resided at

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18411 Macon Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, while active in the Black Legion in this State, but that after the trials of the other individuals he was believed to have returned to his home at Sault Ste. Marie, where he probably can be presently located. They further stated that CHARLES KING, Lieutenant Colonel in the Black Legion was reported to reside at 17 West Glaswood, Zeeb, Michigan.

The above Detectives advised that they had a list of all known members of the Black Legion in Zeeb and Wyandotte, Michigan, and furnished Agent with the following names, which made up this list:

The following are the members of the Black Legion at Zeeb, Michigan:

JAMES ALLEN, EARL ANGSTADT (#39044 State Prison, Jackson, Michigan), PHIL ALLISON, DON BECHMAN, 78 West Josephine, THOMAS CUL, 38 Bell Street (at the State Prison, Jackson, Michigan), CHARLIE COMPTON, 47 Salliope, ANN COMPTON, same address, EDWARD DOUGHTY (now at Pontiac, Michigan, believed to be connected with the Yellow Coach Company), SYR DAMARON (employed by the Ford Motor Company), RAY DAVIS, EDWARD DU RALEY, 4490 Fifth Street, CECIL FLEMING, Alexis Avenue, JAMES HARDAGE, 4488 West Jefferson, STYTON HANCOCK (present Mayor of Zeeb), PAUL KOSAL, Alexis Avenue, HAROLD LAWRENCE, 73 Broadway, EDGAR LAWRENCE, same address, - - LAWRENCE, Senior, same address (father of HAROLD and EDGAR), GEORGE LUCK, Charlotte Street, NORMAN MOORE, MAX MATE, THOMAS MURKIN, AL MURKIN, 24 West MURKIN, ELMER MOORE, LAWRENCE MADSEN (The Detroit House of Correction), MARVIN MARKOW, 320 West Mills Street, ROBERT MCKINSTER, Police Department, WILLIAM MURRAY, Broadway, PAUL LIAN, 34 Rockwood, EUGENE PERCY, 12 Union, E. C. PERCY, same address, DON RICHIE, Pepper Road, - - STIMPSON, first name not known, 3798 Buel, JAMES STEWART, Ninth Street, GEORGE THOMPSON, Senior, Altar Street, GEORGE THOMPSON, Junior, same address, ELLIS UNDERHILL, 4060 West Jefferson, VOLMER (ex-city official and school teacher), JOHN WATTS, 4434 Hartwell, CHARLES WOODS, ROB WILSON, Alexis Avenue.

The following are the members of the Black Legion at Wyandotte, Michigan:

J. W. ALLEN, CLAYTON BILLS, Telegraph Road, ERIC BRANCH (deceased), E. W. BROWN, CLYDE DILLON, DANIEL (no first name given) Police Commissioner, Wyandotte, EARLEY NICHOLS, Sibley Road, ROBERT

FINLAND, Ambrose Street, MARION FINE TOW, ALBERT RIDGEMAN, JOSEPH SCHLAY, JOSEPH SCHWABERT, 1470 N. Erie.

In addition to the above names Detective MEEHAN advised that OTTO KASKELA is reported to have a girl friend who is the daughter of TOM WHITE, a preacher, at 1125 Seward, Detroit, Michigan, who possibly might have information as to KASKELA'S present whereabouts. He further advised that a Checker cab driver named JIM HENRIKSON, who resided at 3190 Brooklyn, Detroit, Michigan, was sought for questioning in regard to one of the murders of Black Legion origin, but that he had never been located, and that this person if located might have information regarding the case. He further advised that LEONARD LIPPS, 4640 Commonwealth, Detroit, Michigan, URBAN LIPPS, presently at the Detroit House of Correction, and LUKK LIPPS, Grandview Avenue, Pontiac, Michigan, were all very active in Legion activities and might have some information regarding the PITCOCK murder.

The above officers stated that they had never conducted any investigation regarding the alleged murder of ROY FITCOCK, although they had heard his name mentioned, and the fact that he had probably been murdered during the course of their investigation of the other cases.

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In an attempt to ascertain the jurisdiction of the Federal Government on the Detroit River, and also the names of registered boat owners on the Detroit River, W. T. KIRK, local Inspector, Bureau of Marine Inspection and Navigation, United States Department of Commerce, 428 Federal Building, Detroit, Michigan, was interviewed and suggested that HERMAN MOORE, United States Lakes Survey, War Department, Room 634 Federal Building, Detroit, Michigan, be interviewed in this regard. MR. KIRK, however, advised regarding the checking of boats that his office had a record of twelve thousand names, all of persons, who were employed on boats in this district; that these records contained the fingerprints, description, handwriting and photograph of every individual so employed on any American vessel; that his office, under the Central Record Station in Washington, D.C., maintained a complete list of all persons employed on American vessels registered in the United States, and containing the above fingerprints, photographs, descriptions and handwriting. He stated, however, that it would be unusual for a person to be registered there who was the owner of a boat and suggested that Agent contact the United States Customs Service, who had a registration of all boats on the Detroit River, this office being located in the Customs Building, Larned and Griswold Streets, Detroit, Michigan.

HERMAN MOORE, Engineer in charge of surveying work and engineering on the Detroit River, United States Lake Survey, War Department, 634 Federal Building, Detroit, Michigan, was interviewed and furnished the writer with a map of the Detroit River, showing the international boundary line as running on the American side of Fighting Island following the main channel running on the American side of Fighting Island, although there is also a channel on the Canadian side on the opposite side of Fighting Island. This map shows that the shore line of the State of Michigan varies somewhat as to the shore line of Fighting Island, there being a variance of between two and three miles between the two points at various points from the Michigan shore. The boundary line, according to MR. MOORE, as shown on the map is accurately drawn in conformity with the treaty between the United States and the Dominion of Canada. MR. MOORE stated that MR. SAM SMITH, chart product man and chief photographer usually makes the charts and can testify as to their accuracy.

It will be noted that the map referred to above was issued by the United States Lake Survey to the Federal Bureau of Investigation and that these maps are a confidential source of information.

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MR. MOORE stated that to the best of his knowledge the State of Michigan had absolutely no jurisdiction whatsoever on the Detroit River; that the Federal Government had sole jurisdiction on the Detroit River on the American side of the international boundary line. He stated that the case of the United States vs Chandler - Dumbler Water Power Company, which went to the Supreme Court of the United States, involving a civil case, took up this question.

The records of the State Prison of Southern Michigan, Jackson, Michigan showed that at the present time JOHN BALNEWMAN, #40089, JOHN VINCENT, #45387, THOMAS CRAIG, #39039, EVELYN LEE, #40100, PAUL EDWARDS, #39046, MARTIN DAVIS, #45078, EDGAR BALDWIN, #39046, ALBERT STEVENS, #45336, and EARL ANGSTADT, #39044, are all serving time at that institution at the present time and that they are all known to have been connected with Black Legion activities, as shown on the records.

The facts developed above to date were discussed with Assistant United States Attorney JOHN W. FITZGERALD, who stated he would recommend further investigation to determine where the actual murder of FITZGERALD took place, and that this would probably eventually involve the interviewing of the alleged members of the party, who murdered FITZGERALD. However, as the Bureau has requested a report at this date, undeveloped leads are being set out regarding further investigation. No undeveloped lead at the present time is being set out for the St. Paul Office at Puhl, Minnesota to interview OTTO KASKELA. The leads in this office will be covered in the near future unless information is received from the Bureau to the contrary. A separate letter is being written to the Bureau, requesting advice as to additional investigation.

**UNDEVELOPED LEADS:**

THE DETROIT OFFICE at WINDSOR, ONTARIO, CANADA, will ascertain whatever information is available at the Coroner's Office, and at the office of the Provincial Police regarding FITZGERALD'S death, and will interview peace officers who worked on this case for any information of value they may have, to show facts surrounding the murder, where it was committed, where the body was found and in what condition, and who was responsible for the crime. Will conduct any additional investigation in this section which is deemed advisable.

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AT MOORE, MICHIGAN, will interview [redacted] to determine if he has any information regarding lastest case, particularly as to those men who used in the transportation of FITZGERALD to Fighting Island.

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AT FRANKLIN, MICHIGAN, will interview [redacted] privately to ascertain from him whatever information he may have regarding instant murder, and also to determine whose boat was used in the commission thereof. It should be borne in mind that [redacted] is reported to know the boat that was used, but that he may not be cooperative, as his partner, [redacted] is known to be a member of the Black Legion.

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AT TRANTON, MICHIGAN, will ascertain the present address of [redacted] who is reported to be either at Tranton, Wyandotte, or River Rouge, and will question this party regarding any information he has with regard to instant case.

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AT NUBROOM, MICHIGAN, will attempt to locate [redacted] who is reported to have been well informed regarding Black Legion activities at the time of the FRANKLIN murder, and will question this person regarding information in his possession as to who was involved in the murder, and attempt to obtain from him, if possible, the person's name whose boat was used in the transportation. It will be noted that this person has been reported as possibly being evasive during questioning, but that he did advise Lieutenant WALKER, of the Michigan State Police, that he witnessed a murder committed by the Black Legion members in Ohio.

AT JACKSON, MICHIGAN, will reinterview DAYTON DEAN, with a copy of the True Detective Magazine of January or February, 1937 to see if he can recall any further details regarding instant case and will question him as to who the members of the Black Legion were who were present at the time the man was hanged on the Nine Mile road in Macomb County about 1936, as these persons are reported to have information on instant case. It will be noted that DAYTON DEAN, during the last interview suggested that a copy of the above magazine, if procured and presented to him, might help him in clearing up facts, which were at present somewhat hazy in his memory.

AT JACKSON, MICHIGAN, will thereafter interview HARVEY DAVIS, EDGAR BULLWIN, LARRY LEE, CLARK LIPPS, and question them as to the names of the men who were in [redacted] party in the night of the POOLE murder, and who are apparently the murderers of ROY PERCONE. Will thereafter interview VINCE MURPHY first, in an attempt to obtain from him a confession regarding instant murder, and will thereafter interview other subjects involved in this case.

THE DETROIT OFFICE at LANSING, MICHIGAN will check the records of the Justification Bureau, Wayne County Sheriff's

Detroit File #45-66

Office to obtain whatever information is available regarding VIRGIL MORROW, ALBERT STEVENS, THOMAS CRAIG, OTTO KASKELLA, CHARLES KING, EARL LAWRENCE and JAMES E. BLACKHALL, and will ascertain if there are parties known to the Identification Bureau by the names of JOHNSON and EBERSON, who were connected with the Black Legion, as mentioned by DEAN, as being possibly parties involved in the murder of PITCOCK, and will obtain similar information regarding these persons.

AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN, in the United States Customs Office, Customs Building, Larned and Griswold Streets, and will ascertain if any of the persons shown to be members of the Black Legion at Wyandotte and Monroe, Michigan are shown to be owners of a boat on the Detroit River, and will thereafter set out leads to check on any individual found to so own a boat, to determine whether or not this individual owned the boat that was used in instant case.

672 AT DETROIT, MICHIGAN at the Port Precinct of the Detroit, Michigan Police Department, Port and Green Streets, will interview [REDACTED] for any information he may have regarding instant case.

PENDING

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 16, 1938

CHRYSLER  
45-1133

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to: SAC DETROIT

MURKIN; NOT PITCOCK, VICTIM; MURDER ON HIGH SEAS; KIDNAPING. SUBMIT  
WITHIN FIVE DAYS REPORT REQUESTED IN BUREAU WIRE DATED DECEMBER SECOND.

HOOVER.

45-1133-9

12/16

12/16

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Detroit, Michigan  
December 15, 1938

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Re: HARRY A. LOUGHRAN  
SPECIAL AGENT

DEAR SIR:

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated December 13, 1938, addressed to Special Agent HARRY A. LOUGHRAN, directing him to proceed to New York City for assignment.

In this connection, please be advised that Agent LOUGHRAN is presently handling the investigation of the case entitled, "JOHN BARKER/KARPIS, et al; ROY PITCOCK, Victim - KIDNAPING AND MURDER, ON THE HIGH SEAS," which is a rather involved matter concerning the activities of the "Black Legion." Inasmuch as he has the matter well in hand, the interests of the Bureau would probably best be served by having him continue this investigation. It is believed that he can complete this work, and other pending matters assigned to him, by approximately January 3, 1939.

Accordingly, unless the Bureau instructs to the contrary, Agent LOUGHRAN will not depart for New York City until on or about that date.

Very truly yours,

John E. Ryan  
Special Agent in Charge

HML:AM  
66-331

cc-New York City

66-4259-122

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45-113

FEDERAL AND COMMERCIAL  
AIR MAIL - SPECIAL DELIVERY

December 28, 1936

Mr. J. E. Huges  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
344 Federal Building  
Detroit, Michigan.

Dear Sir:

Re: JOHN BARRINGER, et al; ROY  
FITCOCK, Victim; KIDNAPING;  
○ NUMBER ON THE KING CASE.

The Bureau is in receipt of the report of Special Agent E. A. Loughran, dated December 6, 1936, at Detroit, Michigan, with regard to the above entitled matter.

Your attention is directed to the information concerning Bureau instructions in connection with this investigation set out in the second and third paragraphs on page 3 and the second paragraph on page 5 of this report. Inasmuch as the above information is of a purely administrative nature, the Bureau is entirely unable to understand the reason for same being included in an investigative report, a copy of which was furnished the United States Attorney. For your information and guidance, information of this nature should not be included in investigative reports, and if instances arise in connection with which you desire to acknowledge receipt of Bureau instructions of this kind, same should be handled by letter.

Your attention is also directed to the information set forth on page 25 and the first paragraph on page 26 of reference report concerning inquiry conducted by the investigating Agent with regard to the matter of establishing the fact of Federal jurisdiction on the Detroit River. You are instructed that the question of jurisdiction on the Detroit River is entirely within the province of the United States Attorney, and the Bureau is unable to understand why your division should conduct any investigation with regard to this question of jurisdiction. Inquiry tending to establish that the boat upon which the crime was allegedly committed belonged to Americans or was registered under the laws of the United States is of course a thoroughly proper investigative step. However, the matter of actually establishing Federal jurisdiction with regard to crimes committed upon the Detroit River is a function of the United States Attorney.

RECORDED

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45-1132-11  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

DEC 29 1936

U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE



December 28, 1978

The Bureau desires to direct your attention to the fact that the investigation of this matter was originally initiated as a result of information furnished your division by Captain Irv. H. Hargrave of the Michigan State Police to the effect that Captain Hargrave had obtained definite information from Dayton Dean that Ray Pitcock was killed on a river launch on the Detroit River and was taken thereafter to Fighting Island, which is located in Canada. According to the information set forth in your letter dated August 3, 1978, Assistant United States Attorney John W. Babcock, Detroit, Michigan, requested an investigation concerning the facts related by Captain Hargrave, in which connection he requested that a Bureau Agent obtain from Dayton Dean a written statement setting forth information allegedly furnished by Dean to Captain Hargrave. Mr. Babcock indicating that Federal prosecution would be authorized if a violation is developed. The Bureau authorized an investigation upon the above basis, and the signed statement obtained from Dayton Dean and quoted in reference report has been carefully reviewed, it being noted that this statement fails to substantiate in any way the information originally furnished by Captain Hargrave. It is noted that Dayton Dean did not relate any facts whatever with regard to a murder on the Detroit River or a Federal kidnapping, and from the information set forth in his statement, it appears that he probably does not possess information of value in connection with this matter, inasmuch as he apparently depends entirely upon surmises and subsequent detective story articles for his theory concerning the Pitcock murder, although the reference report fails to definitely indicate his theory concerning this murder.

In view of the apparent discrepancy between the information originally furnished your office by Captain Hargrave and the facts actually furnished by Dayton Dean himself to a Bureau Agent, it would certainly appear that Captain Hargrave should have been pressed concerning the original source of his information when subsequently interviewed following the interview with Dayton Dean, although reference report fails to indicate that attempts of any kind were made at this time to get in from Captain Hargrave the real source of the information originally related by him to the Detroit office. It is noted, when subsequently interviewed, that Captain Hargrave referred the investigating Agent to another Michigan State Police officer, indicating that he, Hargrave, does not possess detailed information of value concerning this matter.

The Bureau notes that following the interview with Dayton Dean, an investigation was undertaken which obviously leads toward a general investigation of Black Legion activities and alleged members thereof in an effort to establish the possibility that Pitcock may have been murdered in such fashion as to constitute a violation within the Bureau's jurisdiction.

You are advised that the Bureau most certainly does not desire that your office conduct a general investigation with regard to alleged Black Legion activities and members merely upon the possibility that these members

SAC Detroit

-3-

December 28, 1938

may have been at some time committing violations within the Bureau's jurisdiction.

Inasmuch as the original complaint furnished to your division by Captain Harman was not in any way substantiated in the subsequent interview with Dayton Dean, Captain Harman's alleged informant, it would appear that the investigation should have been terminated at this point and appropriate dissemination had with the United States Attorney relating out the above discrepancy. Reference report indicates that Assistant United States Attorney DeBeauch has recommended additional investigation, although the report fails to set forth the basis for such request, and does not indicate the nature of the additional investigation requested. It is noted that this report fails to indicate that the discrepancy between Captain Harman's original story and that furnished the Bureau Agent by Dayton Dean was called to the United States Attorney's attention, and inasmuch as the information set forth in the report fails to reflect that Captain Harman or his alleged informant, Dayton Dean, possesses any definite information upon which to base a Bureau investigation, the Bureau desires that the United States Attorney be reinterviewed and the facts of this matter conscientiously discussed with him along the lines indicated above.

The Bureau desires to be promptly and fully advised concerning the results of this discussion with the United States Attorney.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

**Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice**

**Detroit - Michigan  
January 3, 1934**

**Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.**

**Re: JOHN BARNERIAN; et al;  
ROY PITCOCK - Victim.  
Kidnaping; Murder On The  
High Seas.**

**Dear Sir:**

Reference is made to Bureau letter dated December 28, 1933, in regard to the report of Special Agent H. A. Loughran dated December 6, 1933, at Detroit, Michigan, in connection with the above-entitled matter.

Please be advised that investigation was conducted by this office in the above-entitled case as to the jurisdiction of the Federal Government on the Detroit River at the request of Mr. John M. Babcock, Assistant United States Attorney, Detroit, Michigan, as set forth in the last paragraph on page 4 of reference report.

With reference to page 3 of the Bureau letter regarding the failure of Assistant United States Attorney Babcock to set forth the basis for requesting further investigation, the Bureau's attention is called to the third paragraph on page 26 of reference report showing that the request of Mr. Babcock is based on his desire to determine where the murder of Pitcock actually took place. It will be noted that during the interview with Mr. Babcock by Special Agent Loughran it was not possible to obtain an opinion from him as to whether the Federal Government has exclusive jurisdiction on the Detroit River within the International Boundary Line although he was last interviewed particularly regarding this point and he stated that the Bureau should first ascertain where the crime was committed.

With reference to the variance reported between the statements of Captain Ira H. Harmon of the Michigan State Police and Dayton-Leah, it does not appear from a review of the file that any variance exists as to the main substance of the information furnished. Captain Harmon had to obtain some of the information

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DAYTON-LEAH

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(Letter to the Bureau from SAC Detroit  
dated January 3, 1939)

furnished from other sources than Dayton Dean. These sources are available to the Bureau and are being checked through undeveloped leads set out in reference report.

Captain Marmen has stated that Pitcock was taken from his home in his night clothes, strangled on the way to Fighting Island in a launch and that his body was hung in an old shack on the island. This was apparently a deduction borne out by the fact that the information in the Coroner's report in the possession of Captain Marmen shows that Pitcock's feet were clean while the floor of the shack he was found in was covered with ashes. Of course, part of the above information apparently came from the Pitcock family.

Dayton Dean on the other hand states that he met the group of Black Legion members at the Masonic Temple at West Lafayette and Veterans Streets in Detroit; that he saw robes, masks and a rope at the meeting place which were taken along by his group but that after murdering Charles Poole his group proceeded to the German Inn on West Fort Street in Detroit where Dean definitely recalls meeting Thomas Crain, Albert Stevens, Virgil Morrow and possibly John W. Mitchell. He further recalls that these men worked under Sennebogen and that from certain remarks made by that group coupled with the finding of the body of Pitcock, who had previously been threatened by the Black Legion, he knew that this group had murdered Pitcock. Dean's reference to the detective magazine story was only to tell him to further refresh his memory.

The information that Dean has furnished is, of course, only circumstantial and the only direct evidence of murder is probably in the facts that can only be related by the murderers themselves.

When the facts developed in the investigation, as set forth in reference report, were presented to Assistant United States Attorney John W. Batcock at Detroit he was of the opinion that there was sufficient evidence to indicate that Pitcock had been murdered and to warrant further investigation to develop whether:

1. Pitcock had been kidnaped and taken across the International Boundary Line and murdered